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SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY
Volume II: Resource Inventory/Descriptions

Bramwell, West Virginia

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SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY
Volume II: Resource Inventory/Descriptions
Bramwell, West Virginia

December 1992

United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service • Denver Service Center

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RESOURCE INVENTORY/DESCRIPTIONS

HISTORIC STRUCTURES

Descriptions of individual resources include the historic occupancy of each property as it is known from earliest use to the present. Chain of title searches are needed for a complete evaluation of all structures.

Also included is relevant ownership and planning information, together with notes on style and overall condition of each structure. Integrity has been evaluated and basic structural elements identified with condition assessments. Judgments are, obviously, subjective. They are intended to serve as a preliminary guide for planning purposes.

Plans and objectives of owners have been included in cases where they are known. Discretion dictated a conservative approach in making inquiry of owners.

Additional architectural information is available for each structure on the pertinent National Register District Nomination Forms (Appendix A.)

The national register district includes numbered sites which have been designated as intrusions. These sites include numbers 38, 50, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 66 67, and 78 and forms for them are not included in this resource inventory.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE DATA

An initial review of the historic landscape has been undertaken to provide additional context for both the individual structures and for the town as a whole. This preliminary examination is not based upon national register guidelines for the evaluation and documentation of either rural or designed landscapes. Should further studies be needed to determine historic context or significance of the landscape at Bramwell, in-depth research would be required to meet national register standards.

Identification of tree and shrub species was made by Gene Bailey (WV House of Delegates), James Shrader (Institute of West Virginia), Louise Stoker (Bramwell resident), and Kimball Koch (NPS). Accuracy of the identification varies; many are educated guesses.

Information about the historic appearance and activities that occurred on the grounds of the houses was provided by Louise Stoker, Eve Cooper Murphy, and various historic photographs.

BACKGROUND

Most of Bramwell's homes in the historic district had been constructed by the 1920s. The town prospered until the beginning of the Depression. For this reason, the 1920s were used as the basis for evaluating the contemporary landscape in terms of its relative appearance to that which existed during the town's zenith several decades earlier.

Initial development of the land entailed the clearing of trees, many of which were used by the local mills to produce lumber to build the houses. This clearing is visible in all early photos of Bramwell. The streets were originally dirt and were lined with boardwalks. Main

and Bloch Streets were subsequently paved with brick, and concrete sidewalks were installed in 1909.

Stone used for walls and foundations came almost entirely from the nearby Thomas Quarry, although some apparently came from a quarry near Freeman.

As the community continued to prosper after the turn of the century, its affluence began to manifest itself in the landscape, seen by residents as one mechanism to "civilize" their wealthy coalfield community. Major landscaping occurred in the 1920s, particularly in the form of tree planting. After the start of the Depression, landscaping languished until the end of World War II.

COMMON FEATURES

During the 1920s, most of these homes possessed common landscape features because of the activities taking place in their yards.

Front Yards

The front yards of the homes were socia' areas, particularly for women, where visitors were greeted and local news was exchanged. Both the parlors, which were typically located near the fronts of the houses looking onto front yards, and the front porches themselves, were major social arenas. For these reasons, it was typical to plant the front of these homes with colorful flowers, shrubs and trees. Homes were typically fronted with iron fences or stone walls. They had defined flower beds and, occasionally, ponds or fountains.

Side and Back Yards

Side and back yards were more utilitarian and often contained servant's quarters, chicken houses, sheds, wash houses, stables, grape arbors, clotheslines, vegetable gardens, low wire fences between houses and access to coal cellars. Few of these structures or uses remain today, making it difficult to evaluate the historical configuration and circulation in back yard areas.

The most apparent modern intrusions in these landscapes include the use of chain link fences to replace the traditional wood post and wire fences, the overlaying of asphalt paving on the historic brick streets, modern contemporary wrought iron or pipe railings, utility poles and, to a lesser extent, modern contemporary landscape plant species and design elements.

DESIGNED LANDSCAPES

The Mann Playhouse, and to a lesser degree the W.H. Thomas House, appear to be the only extensively designed gardens in Bramwell that still survive today and that have diverse plant collections.

HISTORIC PLANT MATERIALS

Most of the trees and shrubs planted prior to the 1930s were either native species already present in the coalfield region or traditional landscape species brought in from major cities like Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia and Richmond.

Trees still remaining today that appear to have been planted before the 1930s include:

Acer saccharinum – Silver Maple
Acer saccharum – Sugar Maple
Cornus florida – Dogwood
Quercus alba – White Oak
Quercus coccinia – Scarlet Oak
Ulmus americana – American Elm

Shrubs and small trees still remaining today that appear to have been planted before the 1930s include:

Buxus sps. – Common Box
Cercis canadensis – Red Bud
Cotinus coggyria – Smoke Tree
Forsythia sps. – Forsythia
Hydrangea paniculata – Panicle Hydrangea
Ilex opaca – American Holly
Rhododendron sps. – Old French Hybrids, Catabas
Spirea sps. – Bridle Wreath
Syringa sps. – Lilac
Thuja sps. – Arborvitae
Viburnum prunifolium – Black Haw

Terms

Evaluation terms used are:

Excellent
Good
Average
Fair
Unknown

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Residences on Main Street before 1909.
Courtesy of Louise Stoker, Bramwell, West Virginia.

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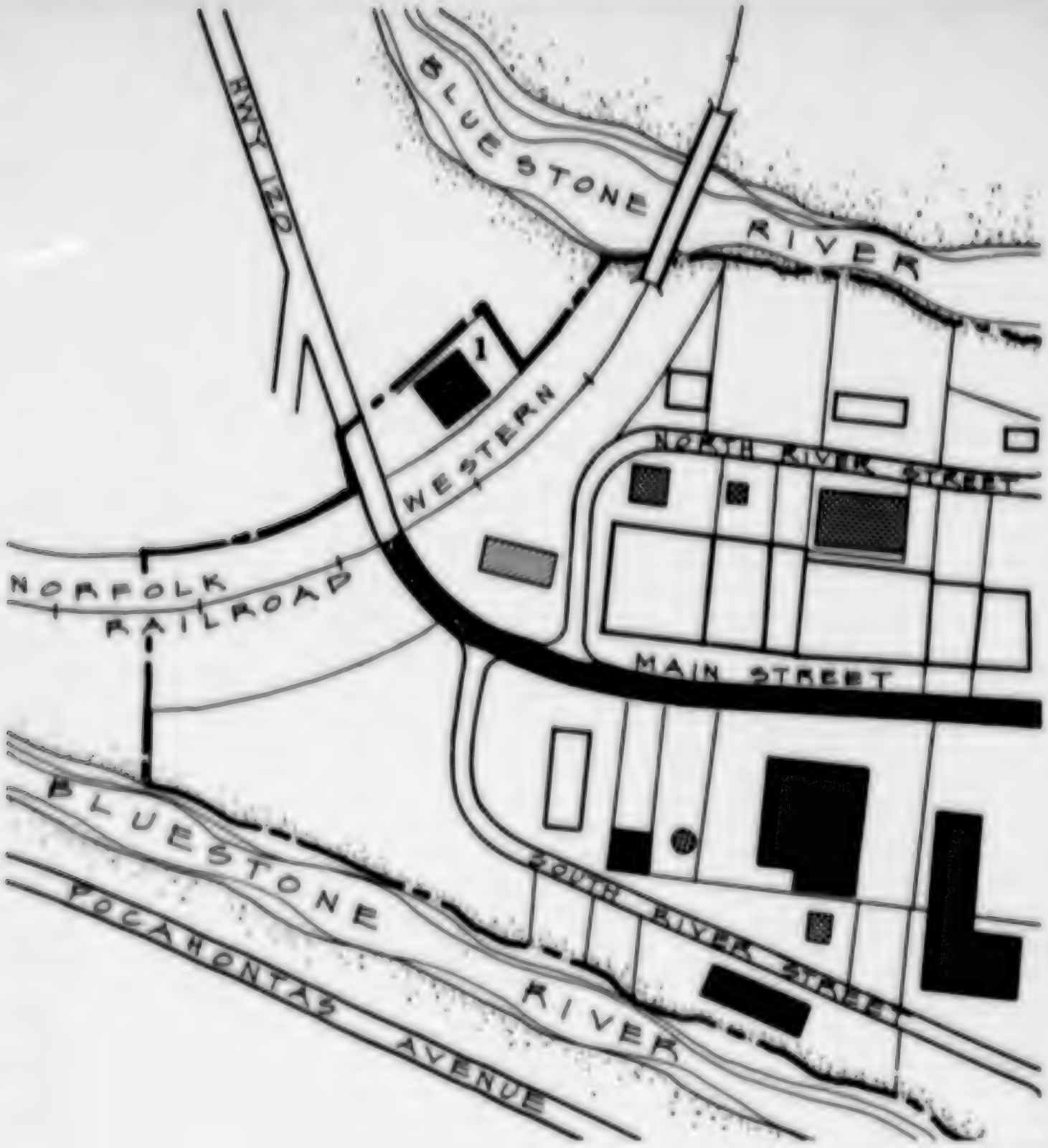
SITE INVENTORY



National Register Historic District

Bramwell Town Hall (NRD #1)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DRC - NOV 91 - BRAM - 20,002
United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 1 – Tax 6

Site: Bramwell Town Hall **Built:** Ca. 1889 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Town of Bramwell, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: The Town Hall is one of the oldest buildings surviving in Bramwell. The town, built on land owned by the Bluestone Coal Company as a subsidiary of the Southwest Virginia Improvement Company, was incorporated under a special charter granted by the Circuit Court of Mercer County in December 1889. It is believed this building was built soon after as a town hall. The first election was held immediately. Coal operator John D. Hewitt was first mayor; James Booth the second. A.I. Godfrey, the ninth mayor, served eight consecutive terms to 1905.

Access: Public.

Current Use: Town Hall. First floor has offices, a meeting room and a jail (not used). Second floor has an apartment which once housed the jailor, but is now vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: The city had plans to rehabilitate the second floor as a community room for meetings and social events. The plan was not pursued because work proved to be complex and costly.

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular Colonial Revival.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, two story, gabled.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Average/Poor.
Foundation: Concrete block, some cracks – Average.
Roof: Metal – Unknown.
Windows: Double hung – Average to poor.
Other: Needs painting. Interior much modified. Shed addition in rear is old.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Other: Utility pole in front – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Time capsule
Debris around structure
Concrete block wall
Concrete walk around structure ('60s)
Asphalt paved entry

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: No remaining historic vegetation. Spruce to the east of the structure probably planted circa 1957. Utility pole placed 1/13/39.

Interpretive Program: Entry area has panels made by a local school student which display the large old houses. The town clerk has walking tour folders available.

Site 1: Bramwell Town Hall, front

Site 1: Bramwell Town Hall, rear

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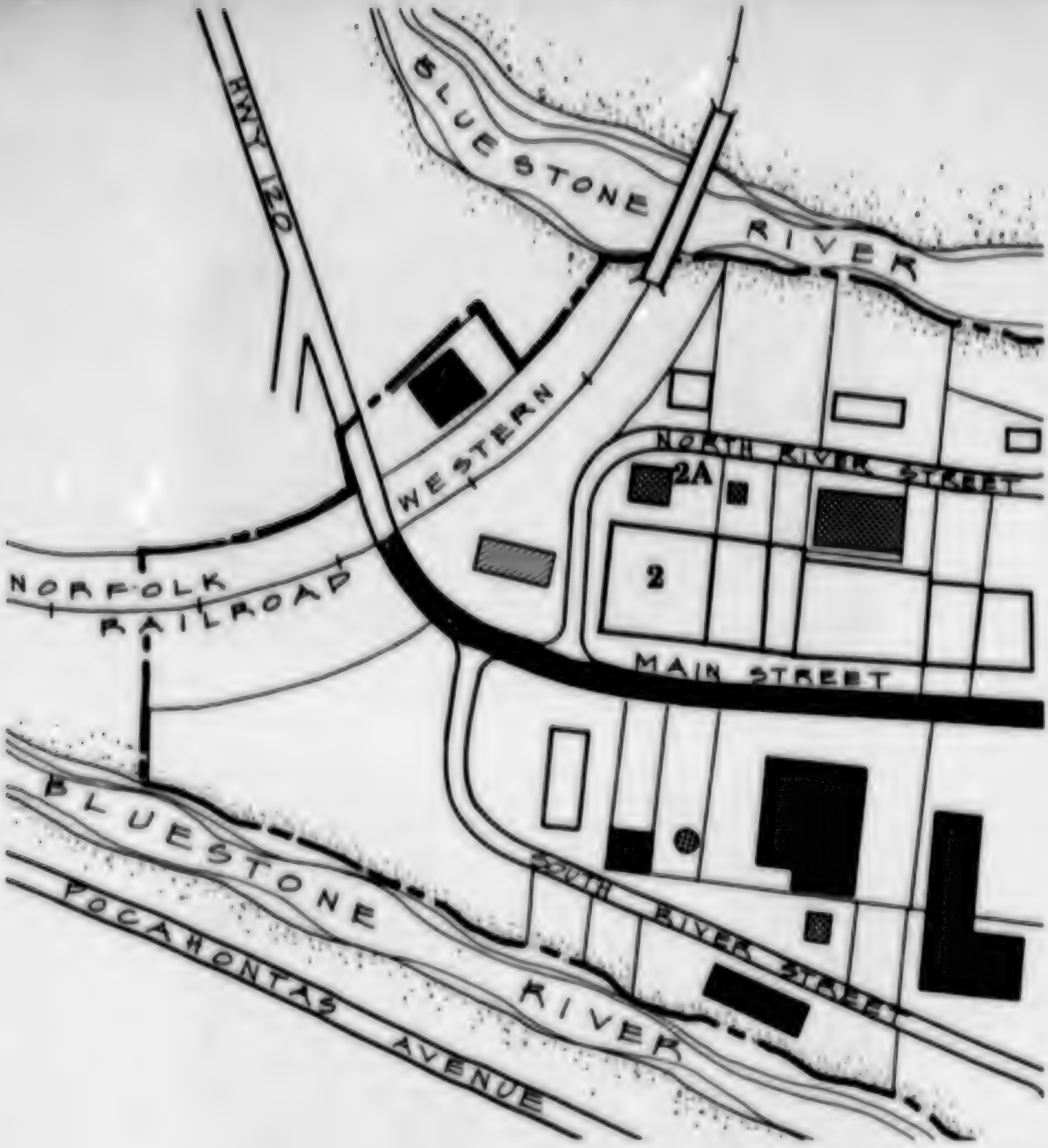

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Pen[illegible] Building (NRD #2 & 2A)

Bram[illegible], West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,008
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 2 (Includes #2A) – Tax 99

Site: Pence Building **Built:** 1910 (Tax) 1911 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Scott, Glenn & Louise J., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: This brick building was constructed on the foundation of an earlier, very similar commercial building in the year after the 1910 Bramwell fire.

Access: Business (dry goods, gifts).

Current Use: General store, offices. Second and third floors have two apartments each, which are vacant and in very poor condition.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Has made application for State Department of Culture and History Grant to rehabilitate building. Owner received earlier grant from same source to repair roof. Funds derive from National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Very poor.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Poor.
Roof: Composition – Good.
Windows: Fixed and double hung. Some windows and doors are missing in rear – Poor.

Other: Rear facade has serious masonry failure throughout. Steel bracing and ties have been in place for some time. One addition made in 1920. First floor much modified. One street side section has window infill. A more recent cinder block addition in rear has asphalt roof. Recent garage (2A) in rear.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic brick band pattern – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Modern phone booth on Main Street
Street light in back
Camper and boat trailer stored in back.
Planter box on Main Street

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985 +/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building has been abandoned; weeds are kept cut. (Historically, there would have been sitting, working and recreation areas in the back for tenants and their children.)

Site 2: Pence Building

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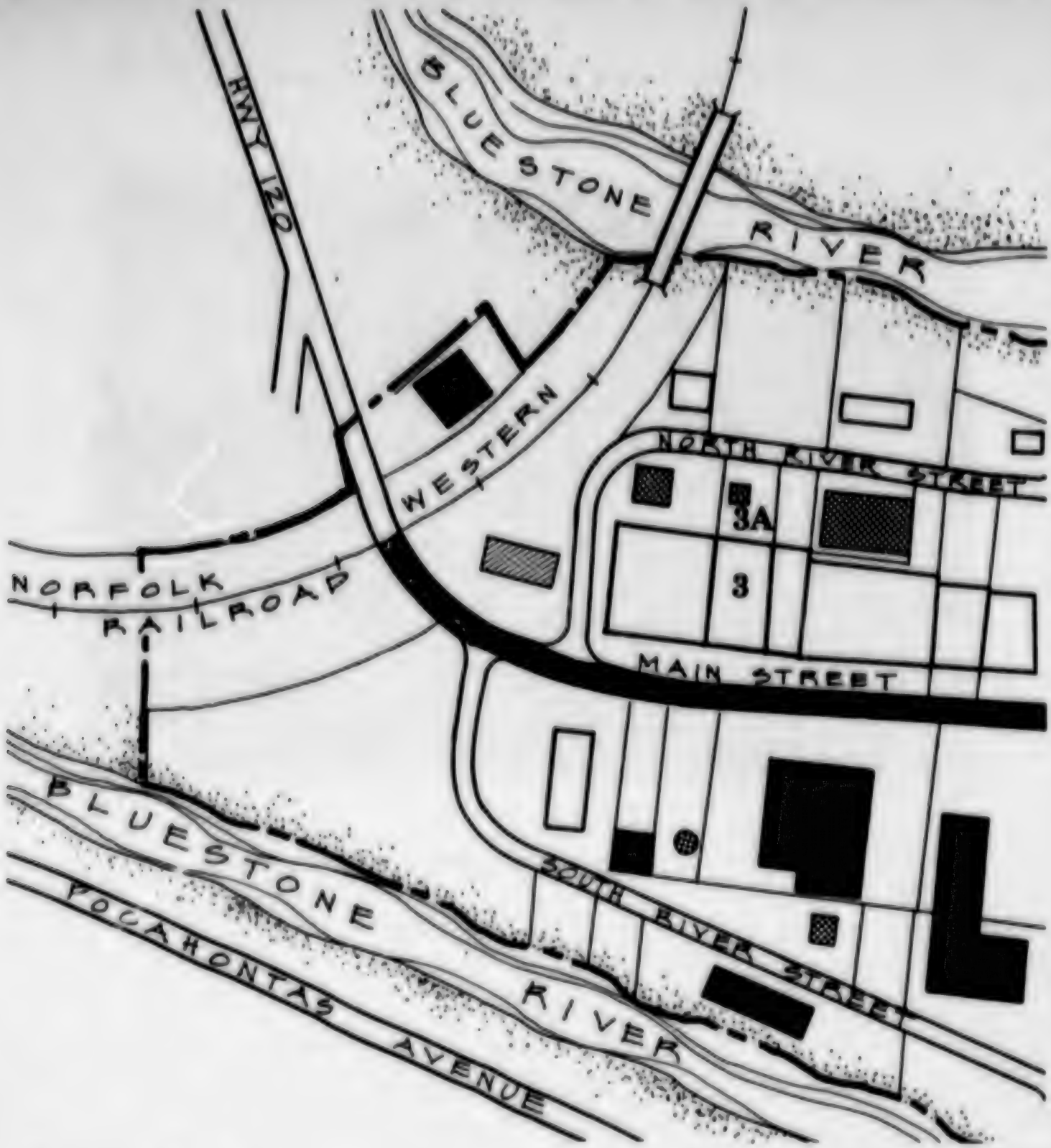

National Register Historic District
Old Theatre Building
(NRD #3 & 3A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,004
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 3 (Includes #3A) – Tax 101

Site: Theater **Built:** 1915 (Tax) 1923 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Cook, David G., Box 162, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Built as a motion picture theater, the theater closed in 1959.

Access: Private.

Current Use: First floor used for storage; second floor porch areas are accessed and used by tenants of apartments in adjacent buildings; remainder of second floor space is theater.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Owner offered building to local theater group in 1990 for $17,500.00.

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Stone, some cracks – Poor.
Roof: Asphalt shingle/composition – Unknown.
Windows: Fixed and double hung – Poor.

Other: Rear facade has some cracks. Second story porch filled in in east section; false stone infill in east section first floor. False mansard with clapboard infill west section, first floor. Front originally had a lighted "marque." A new water treatment plant (3A) is located behind this building.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic band pattern – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Water tank/utility pole
Vending machines on Main Street
Water treatment plant in back
Gas pump concrete slab

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985 +/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building has been abandoned; weeds are kept cut. (Historically, there would have been sitting, working and recreation areas in the back for the tenants and their children.)

Site 3: Theater

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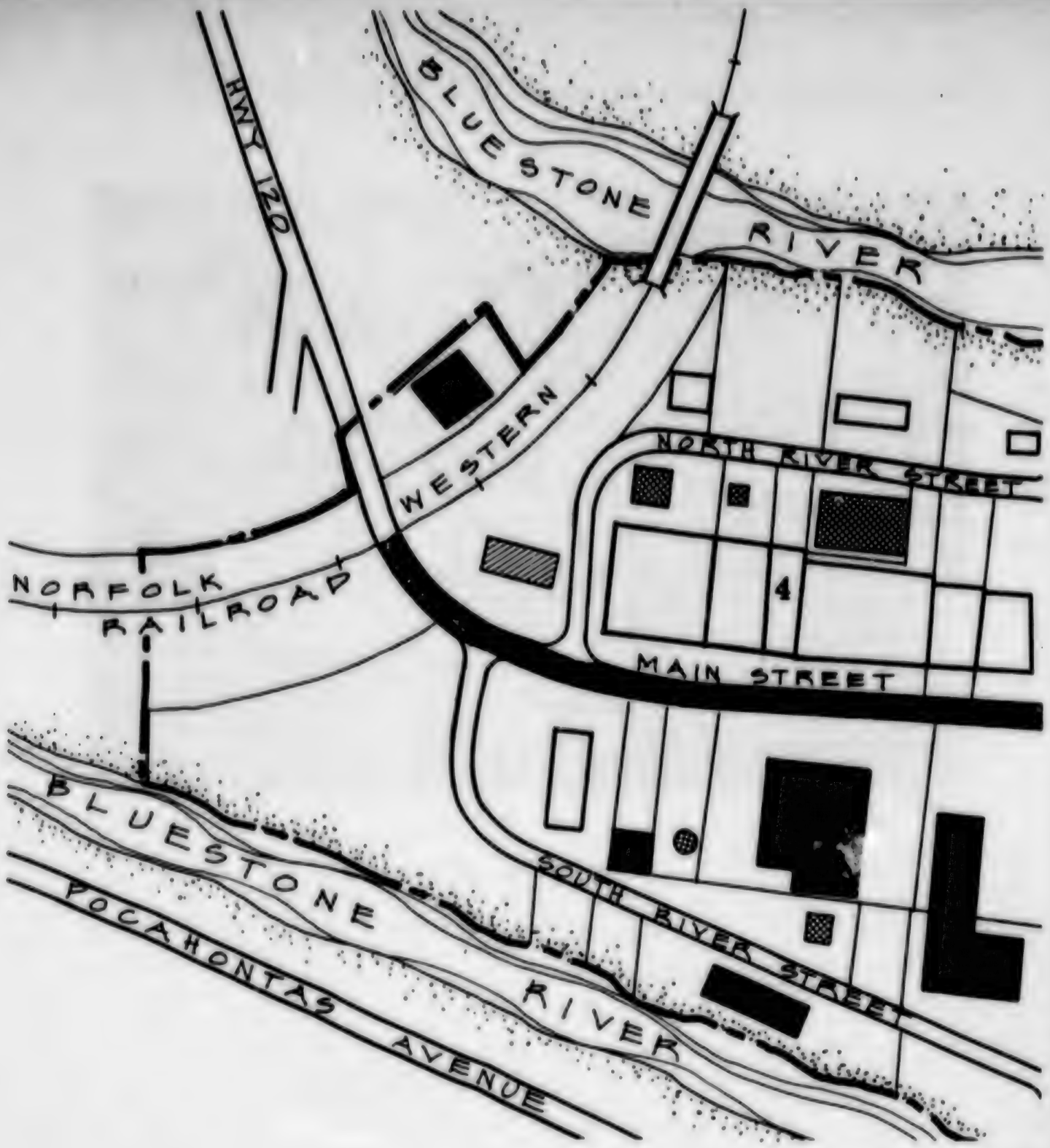

0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Abrahamson Building (NRD #4)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,005
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site: Abrahamson Building **Built:** Ca. 1914 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Rickman, Goldie F., Box 35, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Mendel Abrahamson re-established his dry goods and notions retail store on the north side of Main Street immediately following the 1910 Bramwell fire.

Access: Business.

Current Use: First floor is grocery store; second floor is apartments.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Poor
Condition: Fair
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Composition – Unknown.
Windows: Fixed and double hung, lower floor covered – Average.
Other: False mansard added on first floor, clerestory filled in.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic brick band pattern – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Trash incinerator in back
Metal barrels in back
Utility poles in back
Street light, utility pole in front

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985 +/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building has been abandoned; weeds are kept cut. (Historically, there would have been sitting, working and recreation areas in the back for the tenants and their children.)

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Site 4: Abrahamson Building

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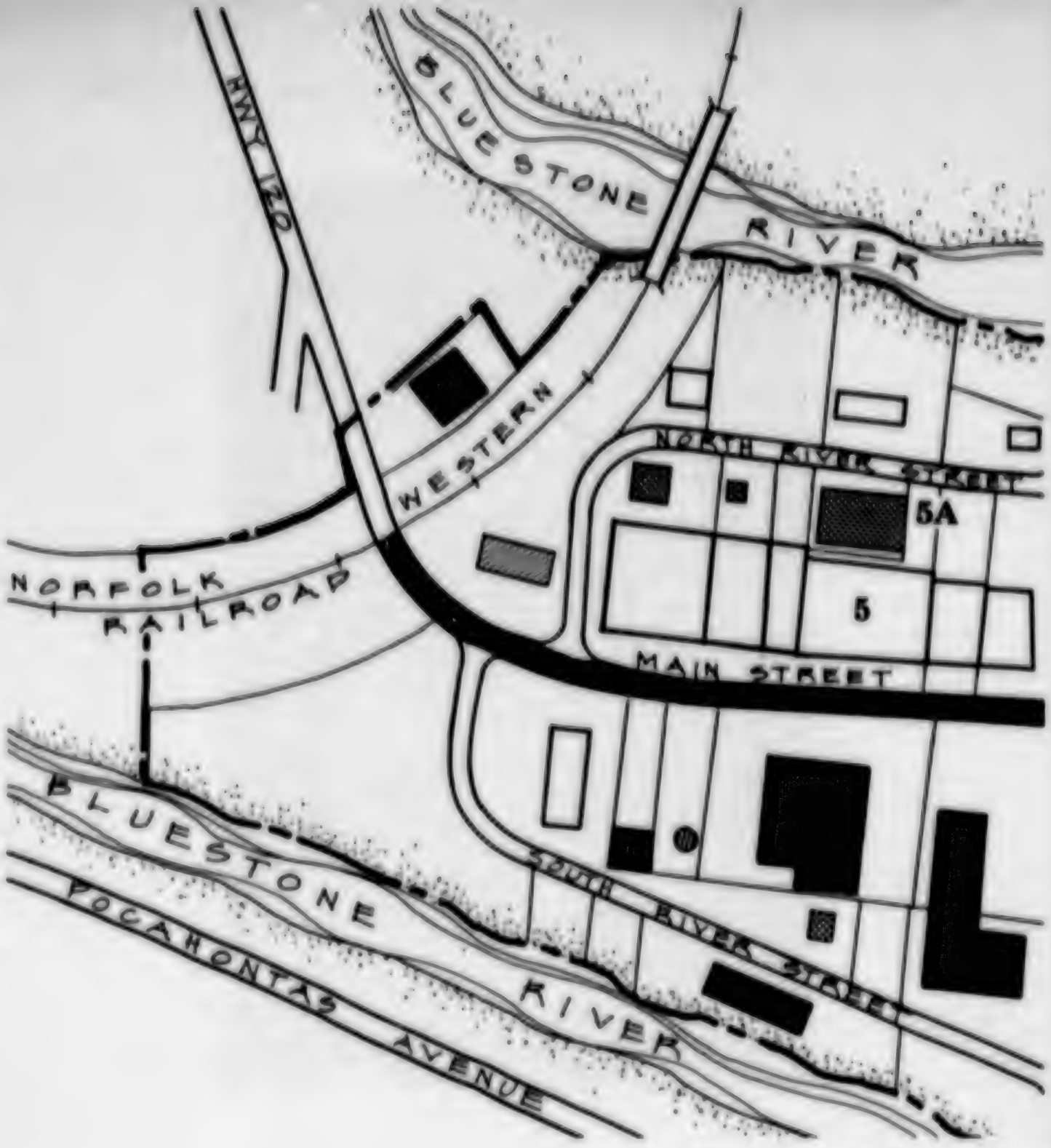

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Collins Building (NRD #5 & 5A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,006
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 5 (Includes #5A) - Tax 103

Site: Collins Building **Built:** 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1922 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Rickman, Goldie F., Box 35, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Built by Jairus Collins, coal mine operator. See Collins House, NRD #36.

Access: Private/Business.

Current Use: First floor is apartments, post office, furniture/gift shop, nutrition center; second floor is apartments.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good/Fair.
Foundation: Stone - Average.
Roof: Metal standing seam/composition - Unknown.
Windows: Fixed and double hung - Poor.

Other: Walls have significant, repaired cracks. Exterior appears unchanged. Clerestories remain. Large garage/warehouse has been built at rear with metal standing seam roof, boarded over windows and a stone foundation. Interior modified. Recent garage (5A) in rear.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick - Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic brick band pattern - Poor.
Concrete Pad: For non-listed structure in rear - Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Flag pole in front
Street light in front

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985 +/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building is minimal because of the presence of the non-listed (historic) structure. The concrete slab is historic and has been patched with asphalt.

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Site 5: Collins Building

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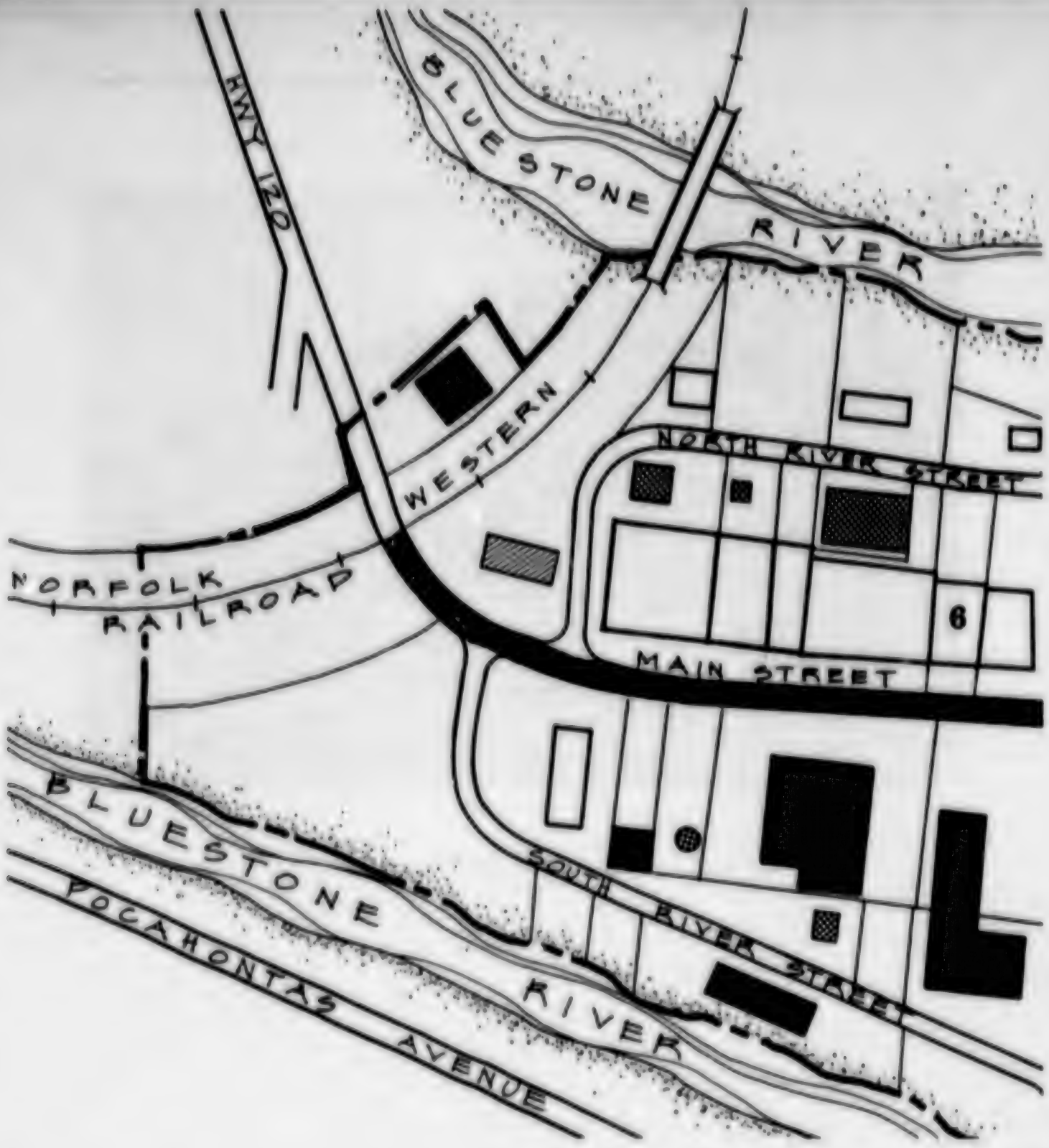

0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Dudley Building (NRD #6)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,007
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 6 – Tax 104

Site: Dudley Building **Built:** 1920 (Tax) 1926 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Smith, Cecil R. and Nancy, Box 292A, Freeman, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: W.T. Dudley constructed this building as a rental investment. He operated a successful harness and tack business in a building beyond the Town Hall, which he had established early in the 20th Century. The Dudley family dated from 1873 in the Bramwell area, and their home was near Pinnacle Rock. Dudley's daughter married Jairus Collins (Louisville Coal & Coke Co., The Pocahontas Co.).

Access: Private.

Current Use: First floor is a catering business and apartment; second floor has two apartments.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Composition – Unknown.
Windows: Fixed and double hung – Poor.
Other: Front window areas have been partially infilled. Clerestories remain.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic brick band pattern – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility lines in front
Refuse pile/barrels in back
Graveled area in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985 +/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building has been abandoned; weeds are kept cut. (Historically, there would have been sitting, working and recreation areas in the back for the tenants and their children.)

Site 6: Dudley Building

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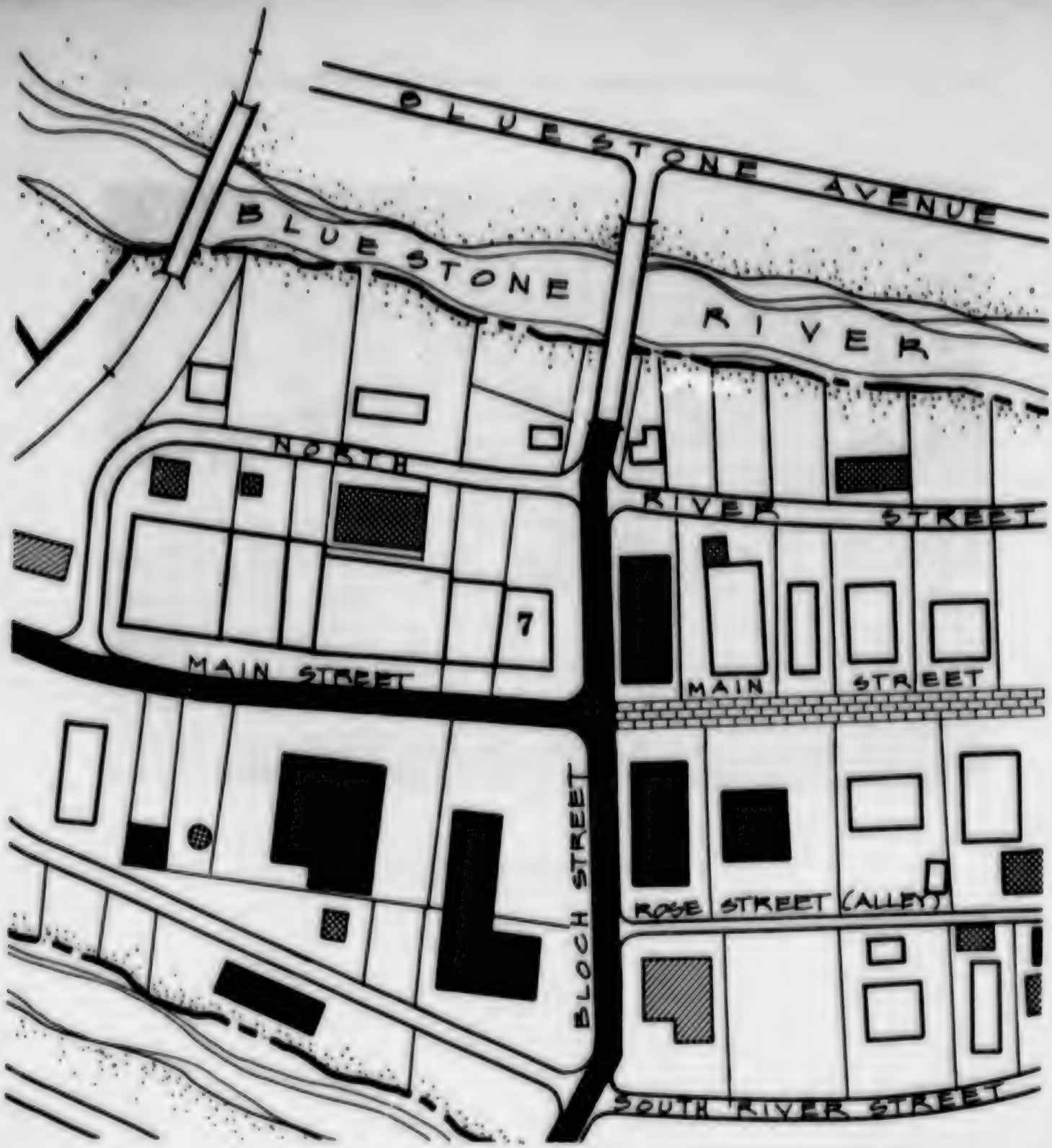

0 50 100'

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Bryant Building (NRD #7)
Bramwell, West Virginia

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Site Number: 7 – Tax 105

Site: Bryant Building **Built:** 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1910 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Collins, J.E., Box 158, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: S.J. Bryant, a pharmacist, built this drug store on the north side of Main Street immediately following Bramwell's 1910 fire. Bryant's original drug store had been established in Bramwell in 1892. By the first decade of the 20th century, the new store featured an ice cream parlor and sold cut glass, magazines, stationery, souvenir post cards, mineral waters and Heryler's candy. The store provided mail order service. Bryant (1865 – 1939) was the pharmacist along with J.C. Newbold. He and Newbold were originally from Louisville, Kentucky, where they had attended pharmacy school together.

Access: Business.

Current Use: First floor has lunch and soda fountain/antique store; second floor has two apartments.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Two young men have recently started their business in the store and seem interested in Bramwell's economic development.

Physical Data:

Style: 20th Century Commercial Corner.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, flat roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Unknown.
Windows: Fixed and double hung – Poor.
Other: Decorative wood work on interior. Clerestory has been infilled.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Non-historic brick band pattern – Poor.
Trees: Walnut (possibly historic) – Good. Silver maple – Average.
Other: Foundation at 2 room house – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Street light/utility lines in front
Play equipment in back
Utility pole in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Sidewalk on Main Street was replaced (1985+/-) in its historical location. A band of brick was added to the concrete pattern as a design feature which is not historical. The landscape in back of the building still has two trees and is used as a play area. Weeds are kept cut. Historic maple severely pruned for utility lines.

Site 7: Bryant Building

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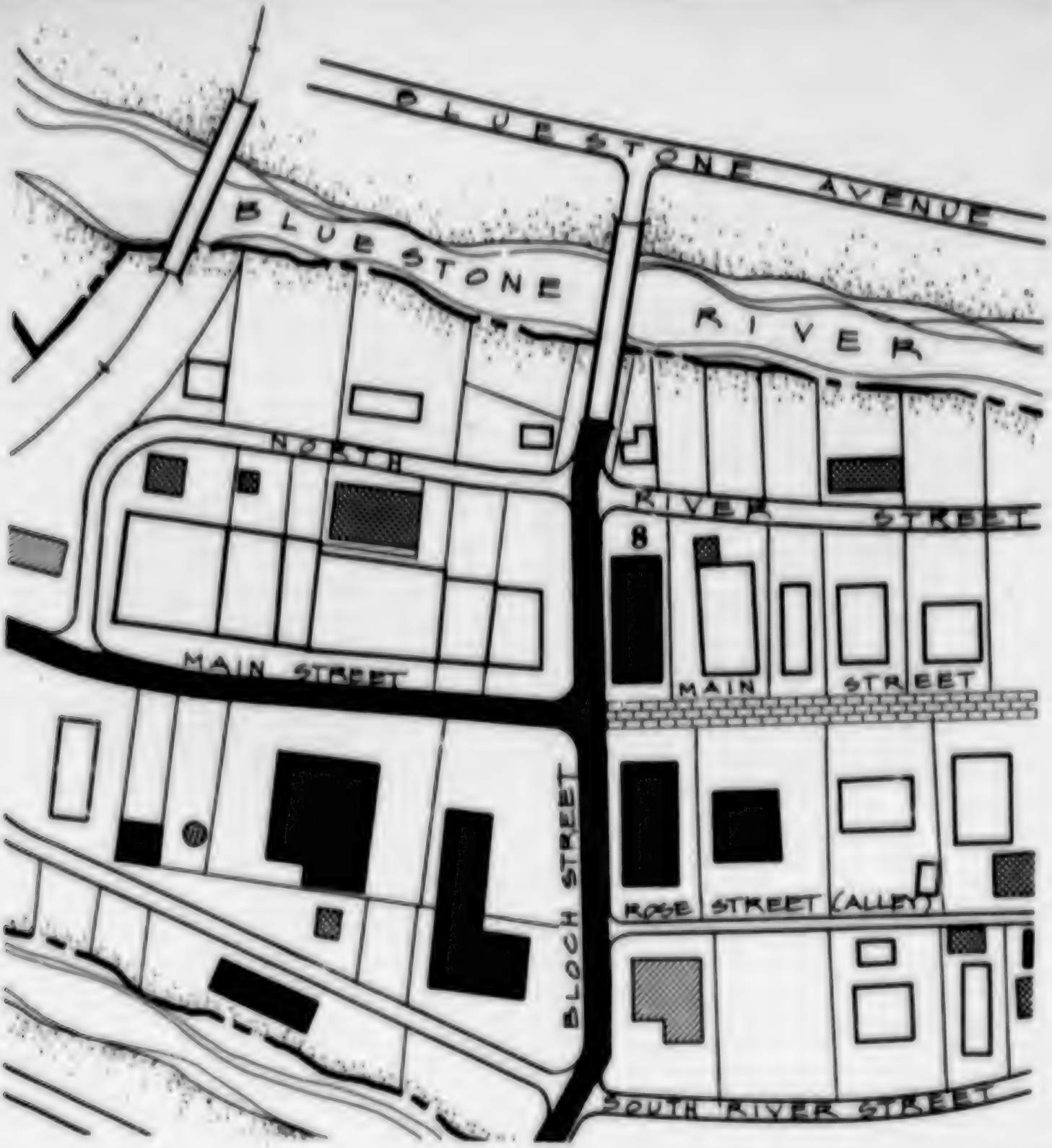

0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Masonic Hall (NRD #8)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,000
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 8 - Tax 106

Site: Masonic Hall **Built:** 1910 (Tax) Ca 1893-94 (NRD)

Address: Main and Block Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Newbold, J.C., et. al., Treas., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Bramwell Lodge of Masons, No. 45, was organized in 1887. John D. Hewitt was S.W.; John Cooper, J.W.; Jonathan Bowen, Treasurer. The R.A.M. No. 15 was instituted in 1894. Its first officers were John Cooper, M.E.H.P.; Harry Bowen, King; R.M. McGuffin, Scribe. Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 10, was instituted in 1891 with John D. Hewitt, E.C.; R.M. McGuffin, Generalissimo; Phillip Goodwill, Captain of the Guard. The orders were much admired for their fine building and equipment. Note should be made that leaders in the organization were also leaders in the town and many were coal operators.

Access: First Floor - Public; Second Floor - Private.

Current Use: First Floor is available for rentals (meetings, social events); second floor is the Masonic Hall.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, hip roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Average.
Roof: Metal standing seam - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Average.

Other: Building originally unpainted, now painted white. Needs painting. Originally had auditorium seating 300.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt covered brick (west side) - Poor. Brick (south side) - Average.
Public Sidewalks: North and west sides - Poor. South side - Average.
Trees: Sugar maples - 1 Poor. 1 Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fence with #9
Signs

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Information Center and stop signs in front. Sidewalk patched, most of it pre-1940 per inscriptions. Sugar maples in declining condition. Brick street emerges from under asphalt in front of hall. Grass strips on south and east sides of building. Concrete poured to building on south and west sides.

Site 8: Masonic Hall, front

Site 8: Masonic Hall, rear

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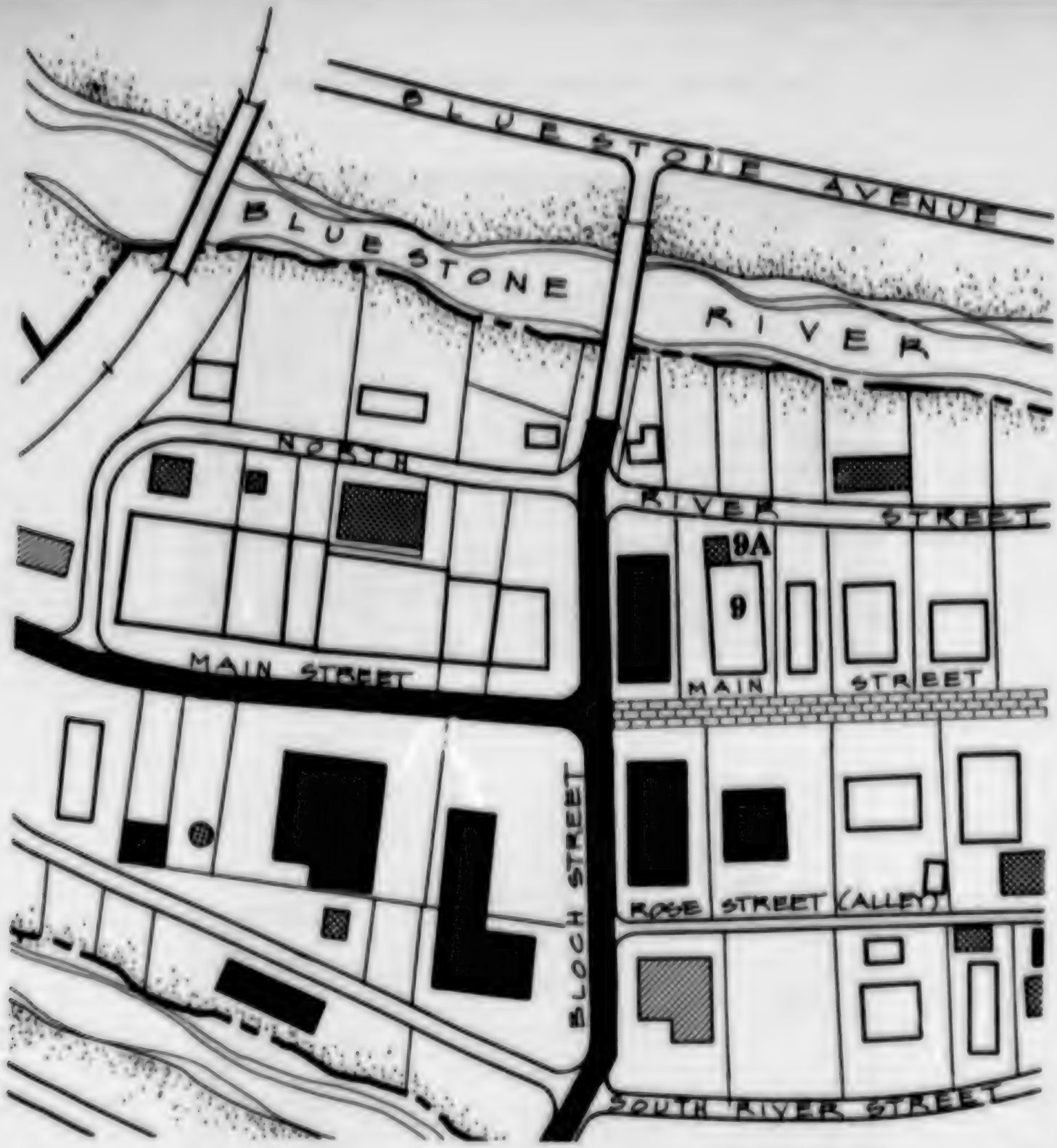

National Register Historic District
Flat Top Coal Land Association Office (NRD #9 & 9A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 90.010
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 9 (Includes #9A) – Tax 107

Site: Flat Top Coal Land Association Office **Built:** 1920 Style (Tax) Ca. 1892 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: McGuire, Jonni, Box 43, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: The office once housed in this building was the reason for the establishment of Bramwell. The Flat Top Coal Company, owner of the majority of land in the Pocahontas field through its subsidiary land holding companies: The Bluestone Coal Co., Crane Creek Coal Co., and Indian Ridge Coal Co., had a temporary office in Pocahontas, Virginia, as early as 1884. Since most coal land was in West Virginia and Flat Top moved its office to its new town, Bramwell, in 1885. It is not known where this office was originally located, but the subject building, across the street from the Bramwell Bank and next door to the Masonic Hall, certainly seems to be at the "center of action." The building served as the coal field's major land leasing office until 1909, when it moved to Bluefield, where it remains today.

Access: Public.

Current Use: Bed & Breakfast Inn.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Fair.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Metal standing seam – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.

Other: Rear ell may have been added. Building converted to a residence in 1948. The side terrace was added at that time. Interior changes included installing teller's cages from Bank of Bramwell as china cabinets in dining room, along with a pier mirror. The front door surround is also from the bank, placed there in 1948. The log cabin (9A) at the back of the house is a hunting cabin moved in from McDowell County to serve as a children's playhouse. Fair.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Portion patched 1940 – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Trees: Chestnut – Good. Silver maple (back lot by river) – Good.
Other: Cut-stone drive delineators – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link w/#8 & #10
Outdoor furniture
Barbecue
Brick path (west side)

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Other trees: 1 spruce 1948 (+/-), 1 pecan 1948 (+/-), and 1 blue spruce late 1930s. Recently planted pink dogwoods and maples. Shrubs: spruce, flowering almond, honeysuckle and rhododendron.

Interpretive Program: Visitor information service is provided and intermittently staffed. Bramwell walking tour folders are available and guided walking tours may be arranged. Information also provided for other sites in the area.

Site 9: Flat Top Coal Land Association Office, front

Site 9: Flat Top Coal Land Association Office, rear

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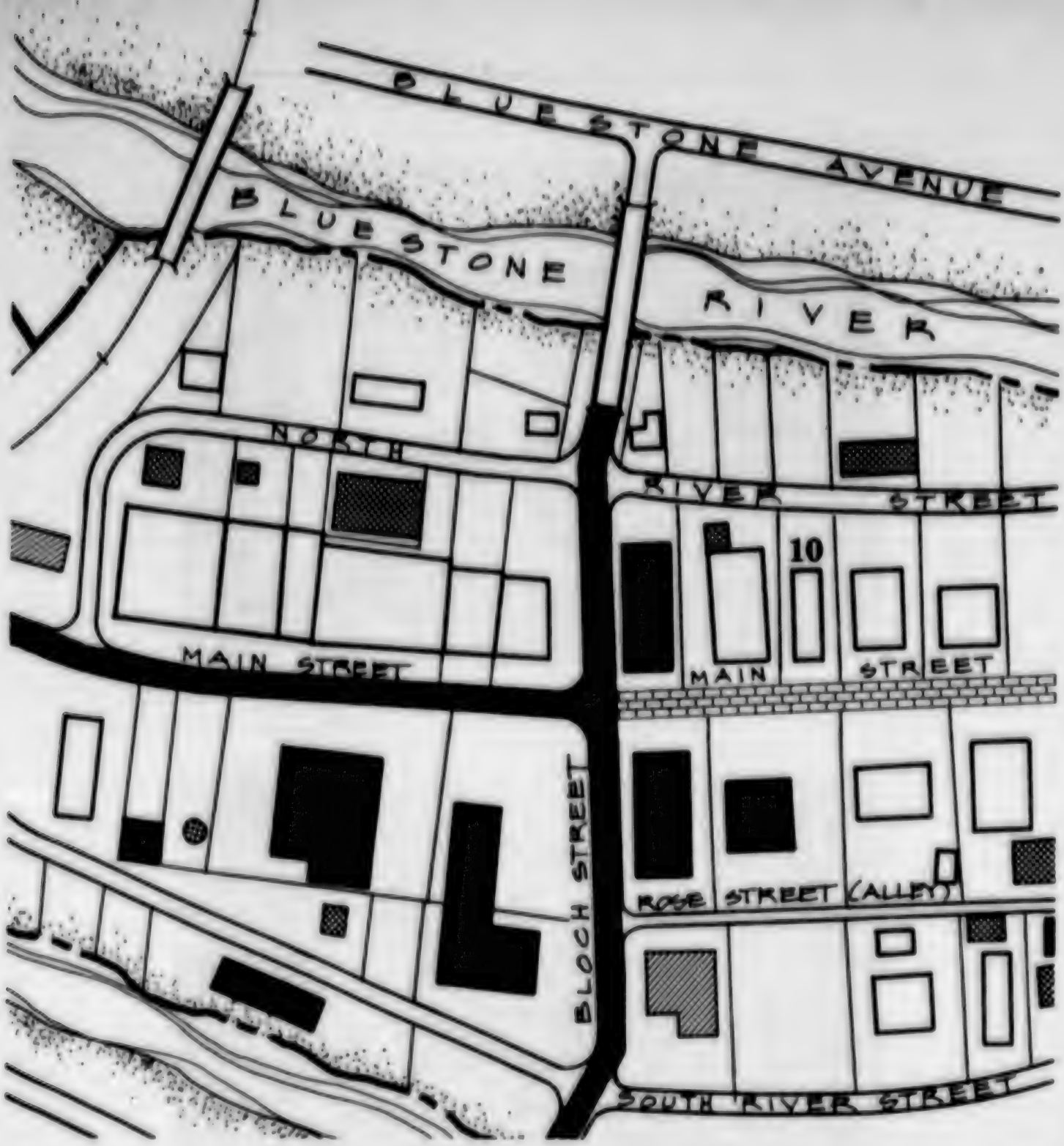

0 100' 50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
McElrath House (NRD #10)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,011
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 10 – Tax 108

Site: McElrath House **Built:** 1890 (Tax) 1898 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: McElrath, Anne Elizabeth, 103 James Condin Road, Newport News, Va. 23606

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Percy John McElrath (1870-?) born in Giles County, Virginia. Degrees in medicine, dentistry and pharmacy from the University of Maryland. Arrived in Bramwell in early 1890s as first pharmacist and first dentist in town. Established a pharmacy and medical dental practice. Medical/dental offices were in his home, accessed by a separate side door. Pharmacy burned in 1910, and never re-opened. During World War I, McElrath moved to Pierce, West Virginia, to replace a younger doctor who had been called into service. Returning to Bramwell after the war, he practiced only medicine for the rest of his life. Author of research work, "The Key To Sex Control", 1911, which brought him much public visibility.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: House has been owned by the McElrath family since its construction. Anne Elizabeth McElrath died in 1988 and its ownership now is uncertain.

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular Queen Anne.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Original slate. Average. Porch roof, asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: Trim needs painting. No apparent additions or changes.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Brick. Average.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Wrought iron – Poor. Post and wire – Average.
Trees: Holly (front) – Average. Hemlock (back) – Average. Silver maple (river lot) – Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Front porch rail
Chain link fence w/#9
Brick border
Aluminum border

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Portions of the front walk have been repoured but with no evidence as to what year. Clothes line in back may be historic. Back fence is comprised of portions of a historic fence that has been moved there. The back yard appears in good condition, reflecting many historic uses. (The significance could easily be improved to "good" by removal of the chain link fence, aluminum borders for the beds, etc.) Shrubs include azaleas, rhododendrons and a variety of annuals and perennials.

Site 10: McElrath House, front

Site 10: McElrath House, rear

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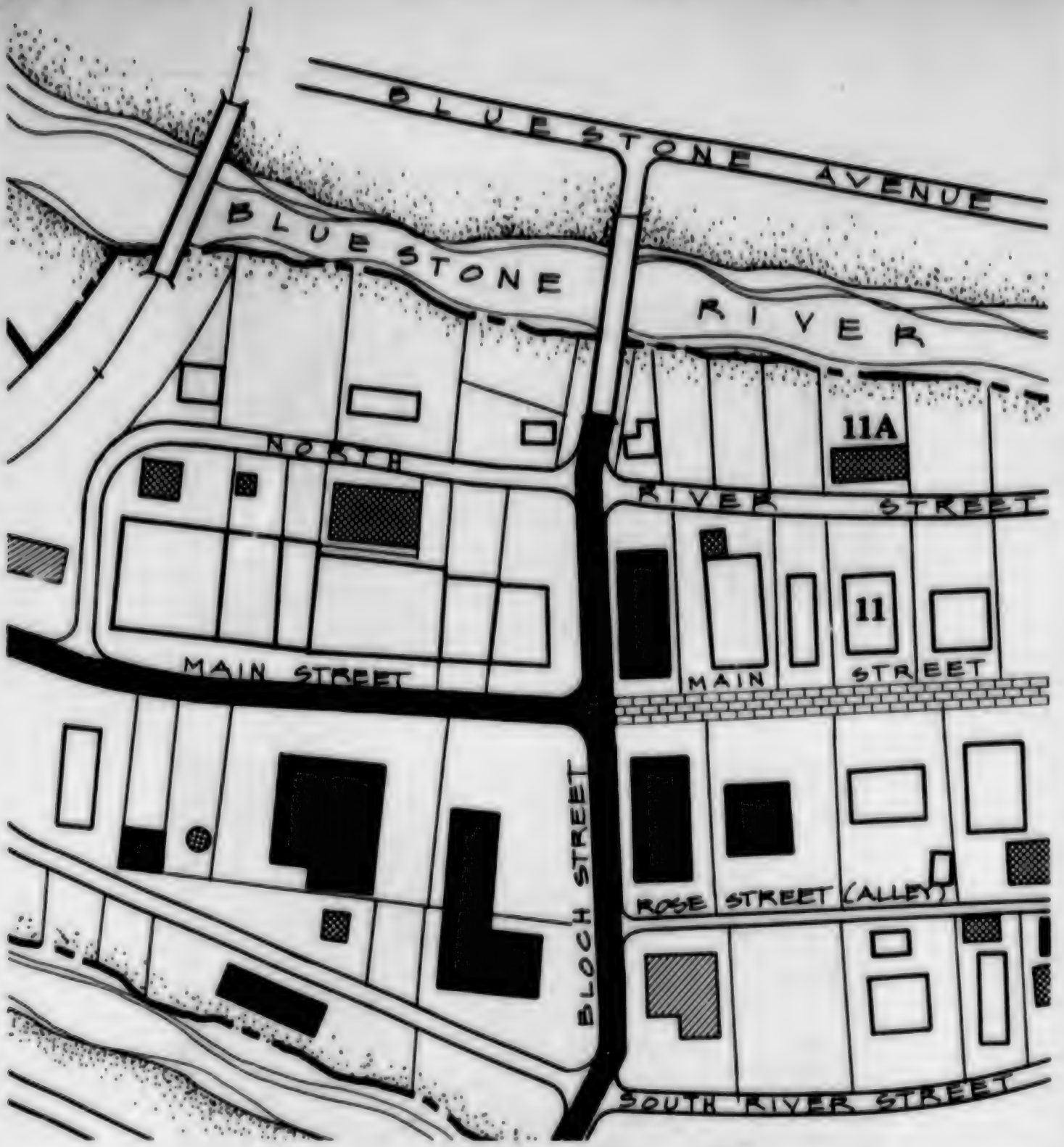

0 50 100'

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Collins House (NRD #11 & 11A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,012
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 11 (Includes #11A) - Tax 109

Site: Collins House **Built:** 1900 (Tax) 1903 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Smith, Wilbur, Sr. and Betty J., Box 326, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: This house is believed to have been built by Jairus Collins as an investment property.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Brick-masonry, failing at front and side bays and SW corner - Poor.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung, some double glazed - Average.

Other: Carpentry scroll work appears intact and original. New masonry flue in rear. Greenhouse addition. Recent aluminum siding. Recent garage (11A) in rear.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Brick. Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Iron - Good. Post w/wire - Average.
Trees: Silver maple - Poor. Sycamore (the river lot) - Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Gutter chase
Chain link fence w/#10 and #12
Paved drive in back
Air conditioning units in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Silver maple in parking strip is buckling the historic sidewalk. The maple was severely pruned several years ago which has severely compromised its appearance. The sidewalks are in their original configuration but there have been several pours made to repair them. The general appearance has been altered since by the removal of several original trees in addition to modifications made to the porch structure. Other vegetation: dogwoods (3); white pine (2) in back; lilac, rose of sharon, roses, annuals and perennials.

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Site 11: Collins House

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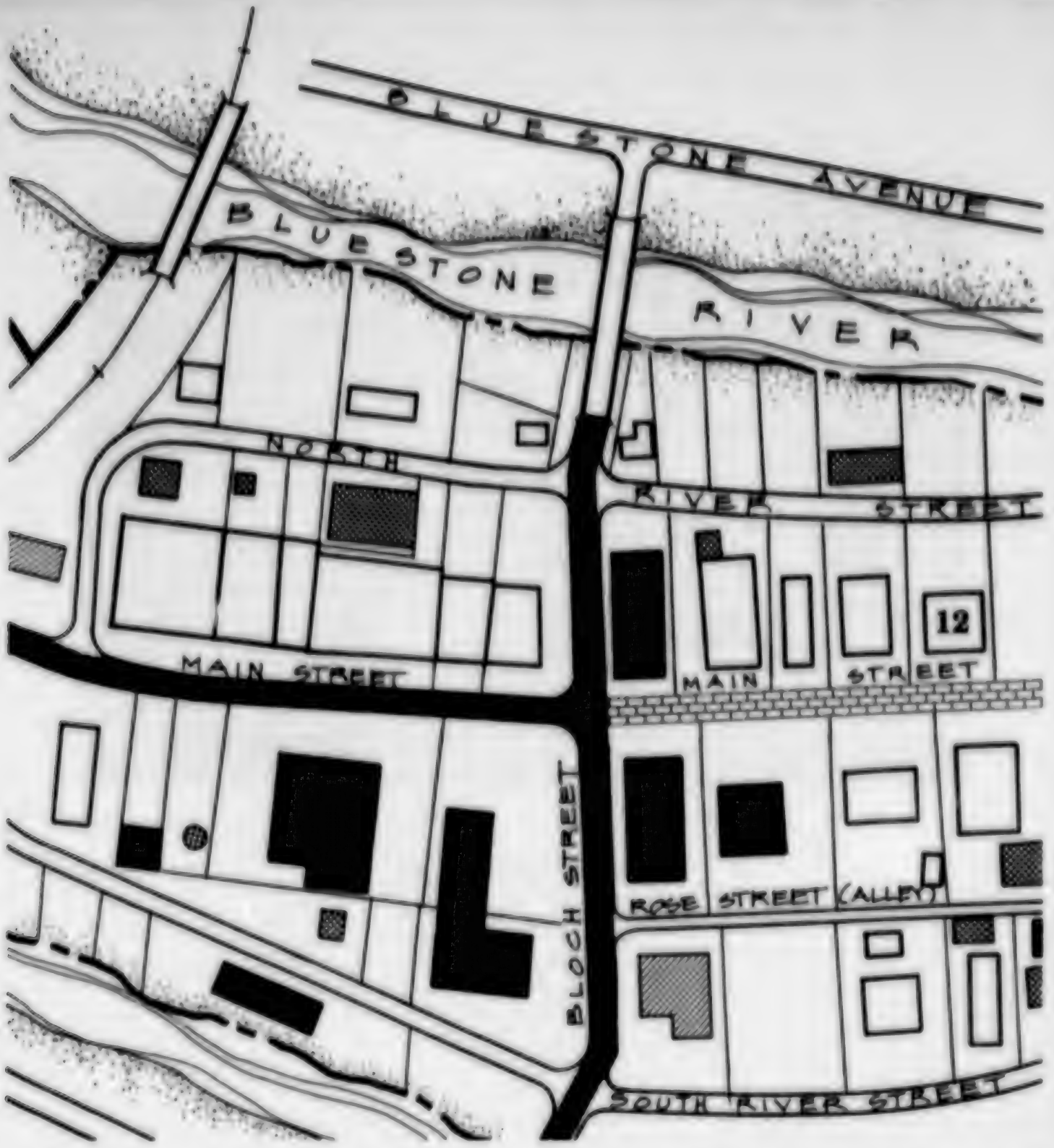

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

National Register Historic District
Kirk House (NRD #12)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 90,018
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site: J.B. Kirk House **Built:** 1930 Style (Tax) Ca. 1892 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va

Owner: Niswander, Thelma A., Box 215, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: J.B. Kirk (1863-?) born in Giles County, Virginia, moved as a youth to Concord (Athens), West Virginia. He read medicine with a local physician before enrolling at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated with honors in 1886. Moved to Princeton, West Virginia to practice upon graduation. Entered into practice with R.M. McGuffin, and moved to Bramwell in 1887, where his work centered around the mining industry.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-able roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Fair.
Foundation: Stone piers with cinder block infill – Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.

Other: Little detail remains. Sided with aluminum-vinyl. Addition in rear has sliding windows. Porch railing filled in.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Original with patching – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Patched – Good.
Walls: Stone retaining wall on river – Average.
Other: Iron entry gate – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link with #11 and #13 and around back
Astroturf porch
Wood planter borders

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Hemlock hedge in front in place of fence (planted in 50s). Sidewalk to house in original position although there have been more recent pours. Historic patches of concrete in public sidewalk. Clothes line in back may be historic and reflects traditional activity for the area. No historic vegetation. Other vegetation: spruce, yew, hemlock, rose of sharon, azalea.

Site 12: J.B. Kirk House

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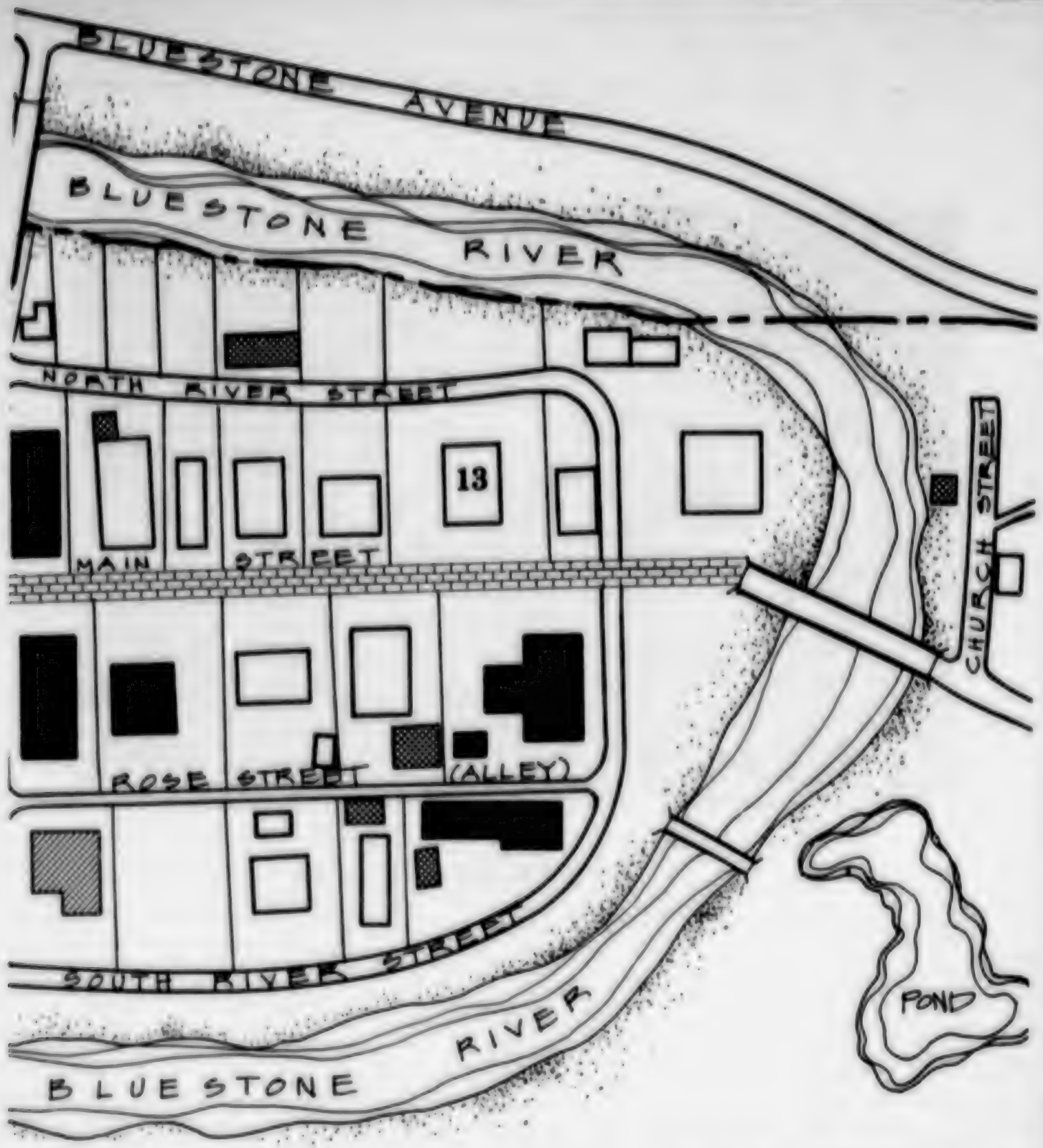

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
McGuffin House (NRD #13)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,014
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 13 – Tax 111

Site: R.M. McGuffin House **Built:** Style Built 1885 (Tax) Ca. 1888 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Cochran, Douglas P. and Dana, Box 122, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: May be Bramwell's oldest surviving dwelling. The property was deeded to R.M. McGriffin by the Bluestone Coal Co. on August 14, 1885. R.M. McGriffin (1847-?) born in Ripley, West Virginia. Educated at Cheshire Academy in Ohio, read medicine at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, and graduated in 1872 from University of Pennsylvania with M.D. residency at Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia followed by industrial practices in Kentucky, Ohio, and New River, West Virginia, where he provided medical care for seven coal and coke plants. John Cooper and Jenkin Jones requested him to join them in the Pocahontas Flat Top Coalfield to provide medical care for their operations. He moved to Bramwell in 1885. His practice was not confined to the collieries but included the entire community. It became so large, he took two associates, J.B. Kirk and H.V. McNeer.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone and cinder block, some failure of porch piers in rear – Poor.
Roof: Original slate – Average. Roll roofing on porch – Average.
Windows: Double hung. Upper section multi-paned colored glass – Average.
Other: New masonry fireplace chimney in rear. Porch rail filled in.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Cracking and buckling – Poor.
Private Sidewalks: Cracking and buckling – Poor.
Walls: Stone in front – Average.
Trees: River lot – Silver maples (2) – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fence with #12 and #14 and around back
Stair rail
Children's play equipment

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Sidewalks are original but in poor condition because of cracking and buckling. Silver Maples on river lot have been cut and have since regrown but are historic. Other trees (various ages): Lombardy Poplar (9); white pine (2); tulip poplar (1); silver maple (1); dogwood (3); box elder (2). Grape arbor in back has been rebuilt but the grapes are original. Of note are the massed plantings of cinnamon fern used as borders. Shrubs: lilac, azalea, cedar, ivy (on the rock wall), rose of sharon, red bud, and roses.

Site 13: R.M. McGuffin House

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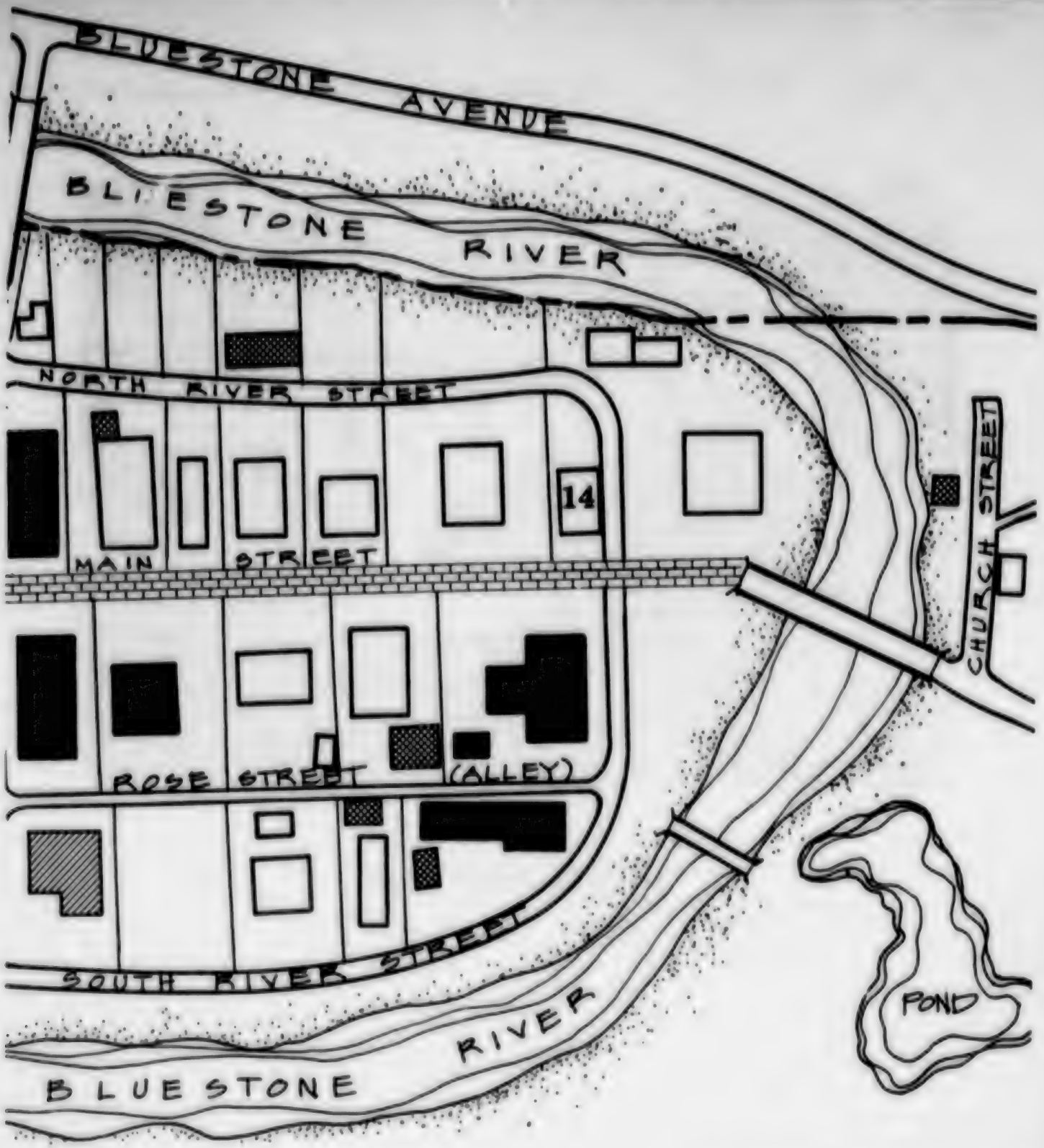

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National Register Historic District
McNeer House (NRD #14)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,018
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 14 – Tax 112

Site: H.V. McNeer House **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) Ca. 1890 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Miller, William T.J. & Billee, Box 177, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: H.V. McNeer (1863-?) born in Monroe County, West Virginia. Educated at Lebanon Ohio Normal School, read medicine in Union, West Virginia, followed by medical school at the University of Virginia. Graduated from Bellevue Medical College in New York City in 1886, followed by two year residency at Bellevue Hospital. Moved to Bramwell in 1887 to join industrial practice of R.M. McGuffin.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Brick, parged over and patched – Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average/Poor.
Windows: Double hung, some double glazed – Poor.
Other: Appears to be little changed.

Historic Landscape Condition: Fair (-).

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.
Private Sidewalks: Patching – Poor.
Other: Brick path in back – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link with #13
Abandoned car
Shed

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Wood post and wire fence has been removed from around the building. Evidence of foundation garden beds. Brick path in back overgrown. Vegetation: tulip poplar (possibly historic); rose of sharon; box; lilac; forsythia.

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Site 14: H.V. McNeer House

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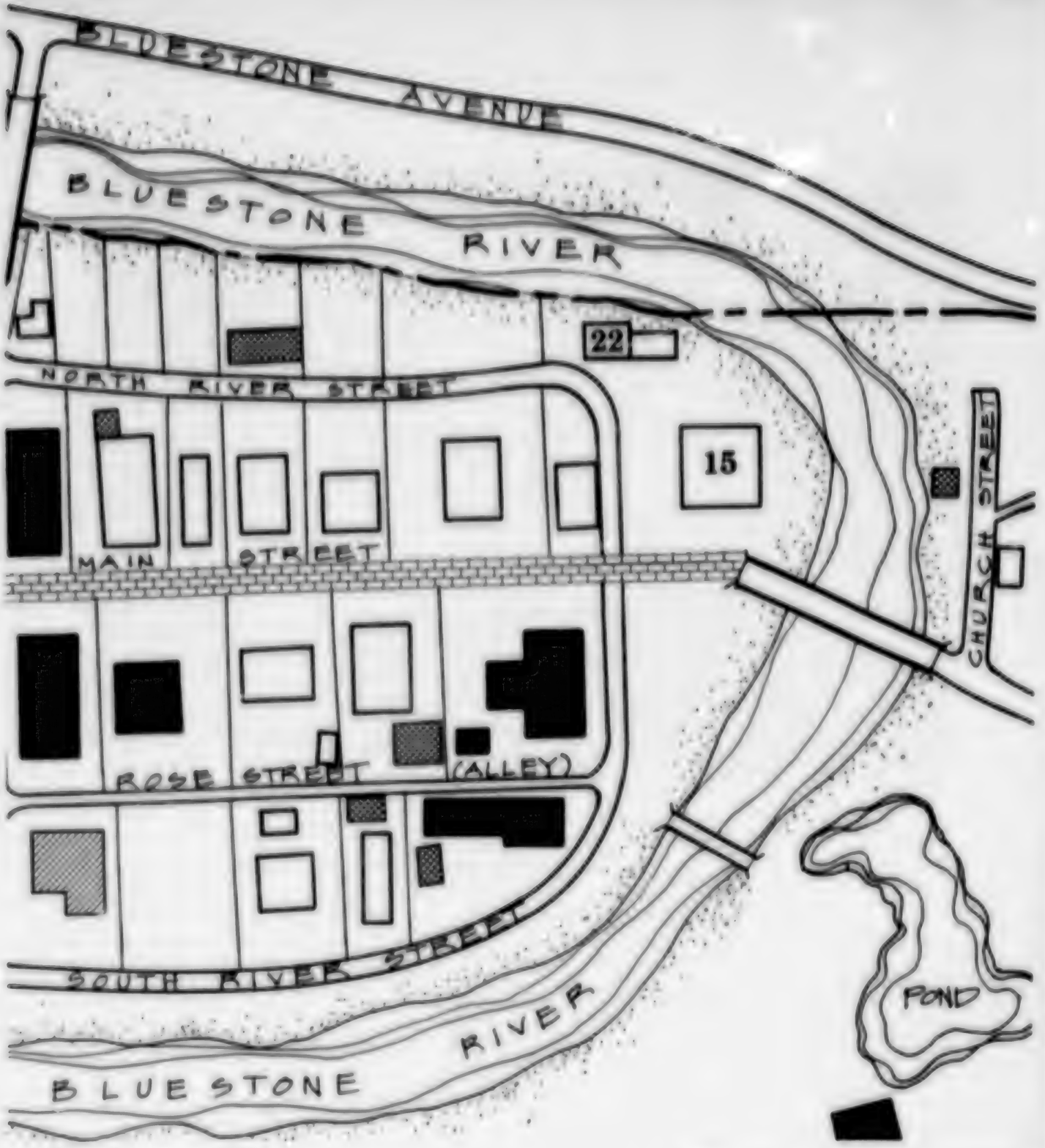

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Pack House (NRD #15)

Cottage & Garage (NRD #22)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,016

United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

62

Site Number: 15 - Tax 113 (See also #22)

Site: J.C. Pack House **Built:** Style Built 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1897 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Collins, James E. & Helen, Box 158, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: J.C. Pack (1866-?) born near Hinton, West Virginia. Very limited schooling. Began work as a store clerk. Moved to Simmons in 1893 to operate a "goods business" in Bramwell. In 1897, he became store manager and bookkeeper for the Buckeye Coal & Coke Co. in Freeman. In 1904, he became general manager of Buckeye. In 1902, Pack moved to this house, provided by Buckeye Coal & Coke Co., in Bramwell.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling. Appears to have second story apartment.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone, brick piers - Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung, some broken in attic - Average.

Other: Exterior staircase in rear. House seems to have been "cleaned up" architecturally.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Brick - Average.
Brick covered near bridge: Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Iron - Average.
Trees: Silver maple (3) - Poor, Average, Good. Sugar maple (1) - Poor.
Other: Rock flagstone path in back - Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility lines in back
Chain link arbor
Gravel under stairwell
Planters (brick and concrete)

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Silver maple in front on river bank is one of largest in Bramwell. Other vegetation: white pine (1); dogwood (1 of 2 possibly historic); purple leaf plum; dog hobble; yucca; roses; mahonia; red bud; rose of sharon; rhododendrons, juniper; holly; burning bush; wisteria; lilac; various annuals and perennials.

Site 15: J.C. Pack House

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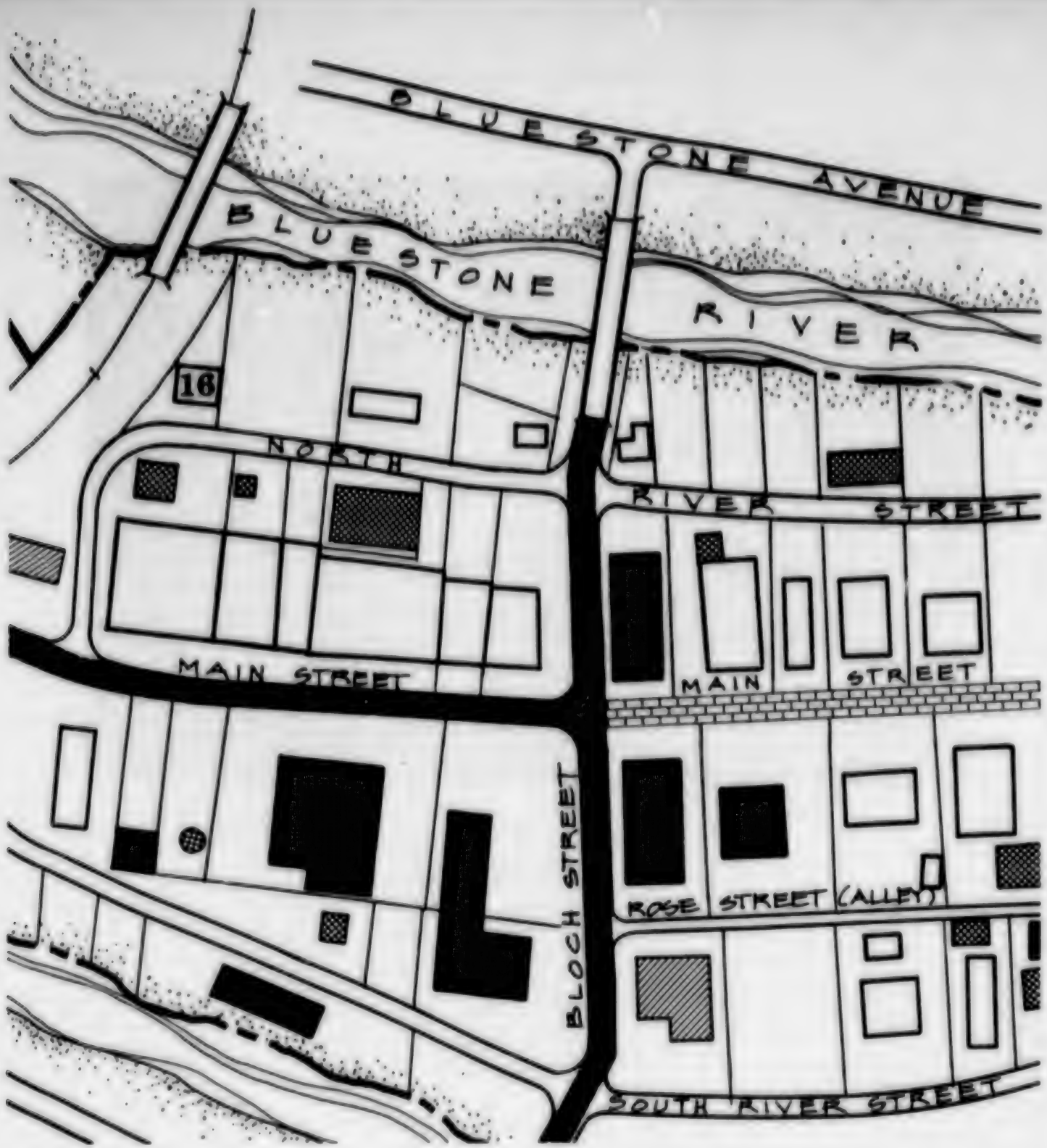

0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Pilgrim Holiness/ Wesleyan Church (NRD #16)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,017
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 16 – Tax 00866

Site: Pilgrim Holiness Church **Built:** 1906-1930

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Pilgrim Holiness Church, River Street, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Public.

Current Use: Church.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Unknown.
Material/Construction Type: Unknown, gable-mansard roof.
Integrity: Poor. This building has been "remodeled out."
Condition: Average/Good.
Foundation: Cast stone over unknown foundation – Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: Front stone stairway may be original.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Repaired in original location – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility lines
Railings to basement

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Spruce planted between church and railroad tracks. Area kept mowed to river.

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Site 16: Pilgrim Holiness Church

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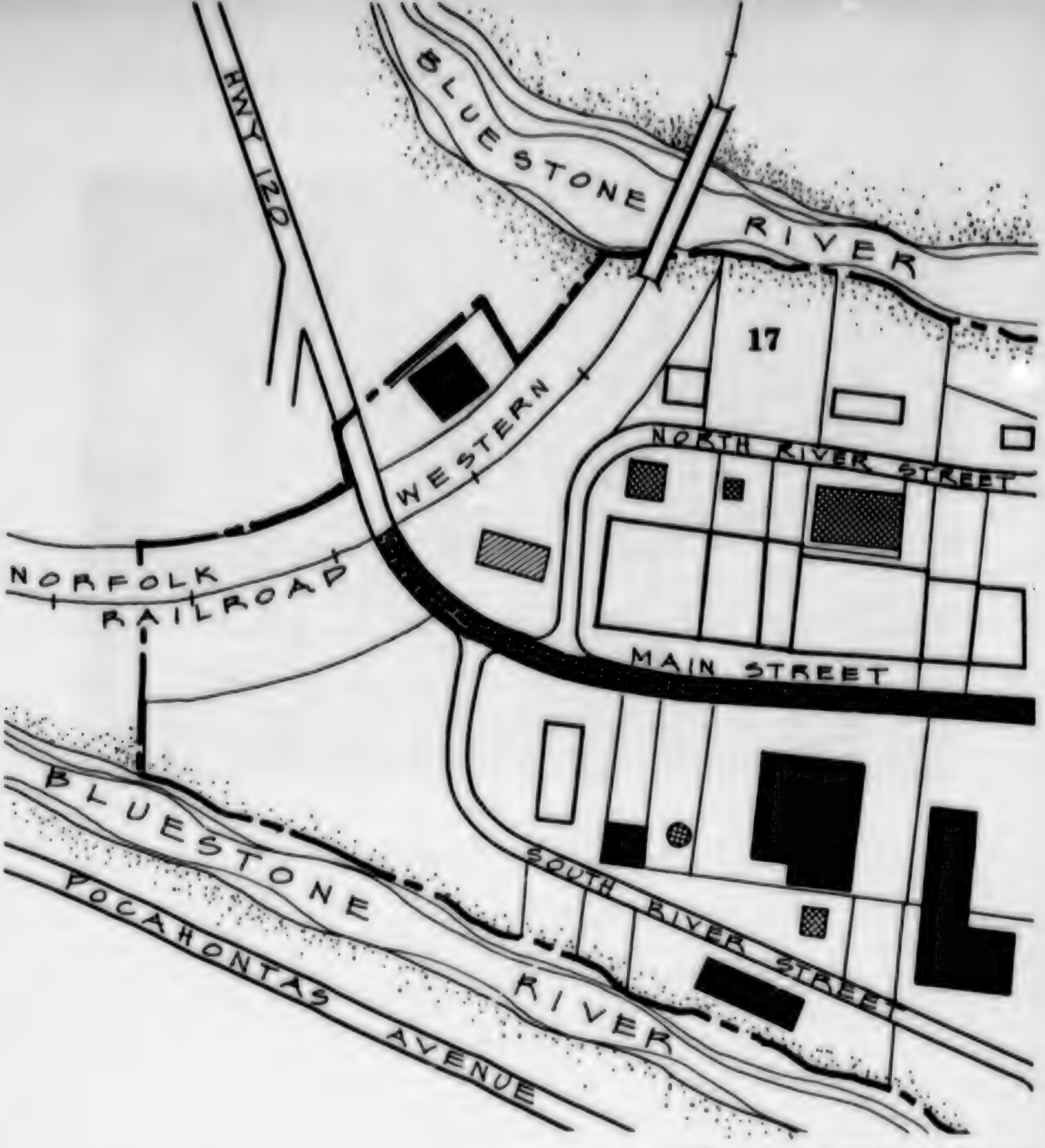

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #17 – demolished)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,018
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 17 - Tax 87

Site: House **Built:** 1906-1930 (NRD)

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Wesleyan Church of Bramwell, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

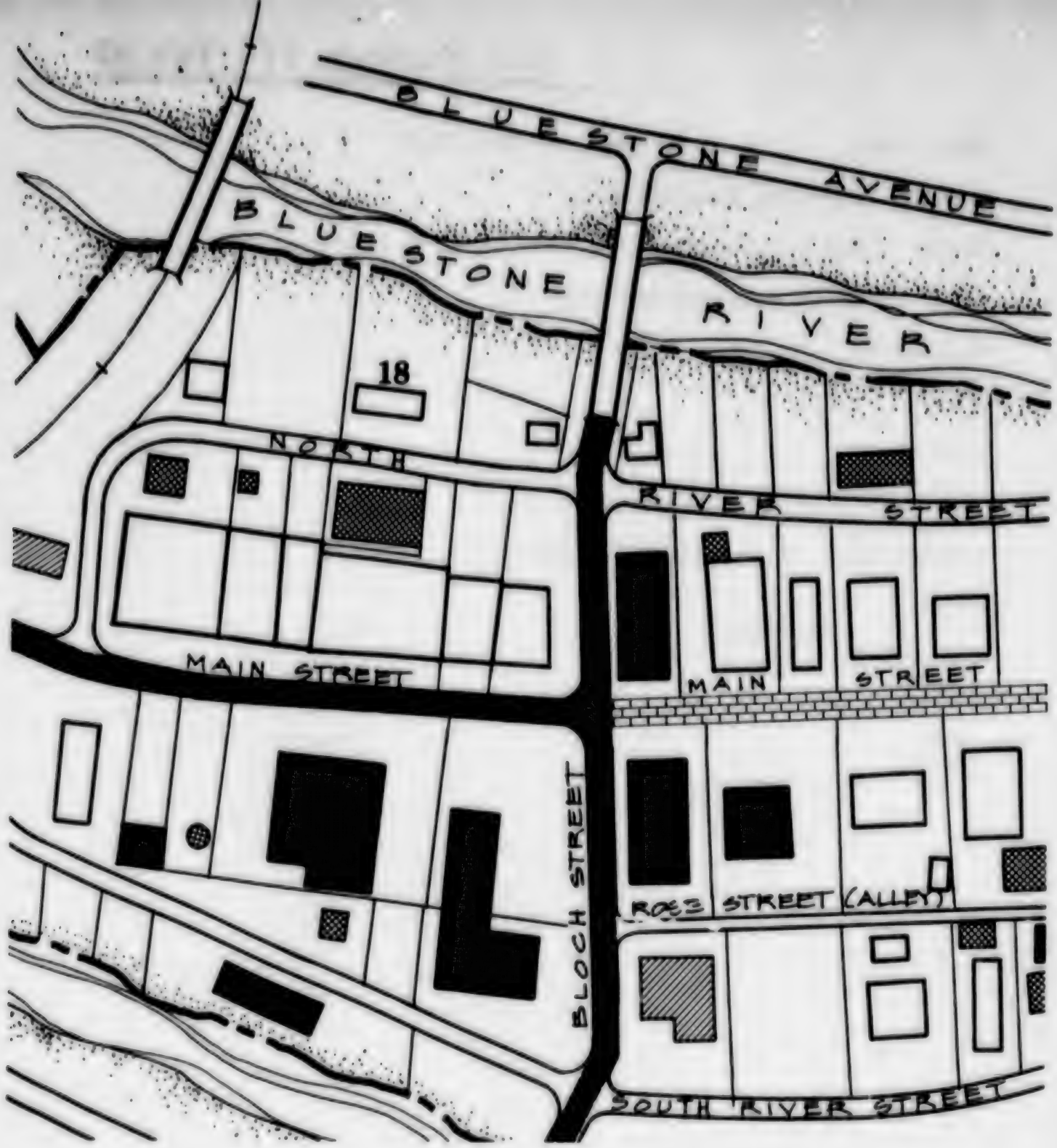
Access:

Current Use:

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data: This building has been demolished.

Style:
Material/Construction Type:
Integrity:
Condition:
Foundation:
Roof:
Windows:
Other:



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National Register Historic District
Remington Smith Gas Station & Garage (NRD #18)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,019
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 18 – Tax 88

Site: Remington Smith Gas Station and Garage **Built:** 1900 (Tax) Before 1930 (NRD)

Address: Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hill, Hampton D., Sr., Rt. 3, Box 223, Bluefield, W. Va. 24701

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Early garage and repair shop for motor cars.

Access: Business.

Current Use: Kitchen remodeler's storage. Second floor appears to have apartment which is vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: False Front Commercial/Vernacular. Three-part building: A – Frame False Front; B – Brick rear wing; C – Wood garage and lean-to shop.

Material/Construction Type: Masonry and wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: A - Stone; B - Masonry; C - Concrete sill – Poor to average.
Roof: Metal standing seam – Poor.
Windows: Double hung, some double pane – Poor.

Other: Old gas pump in front of garage section. Exterior staircase to second floor. Brick addition has major repaired cracks in walls.

Historic Landscape Condition: Good.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: There is a minimum of landscape since the structure extends from the street to the river banks. Although it is poorly maintained, no intrusions have degraded the landscape significance.

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Site 18: Remington Smith Gas Station and Garage

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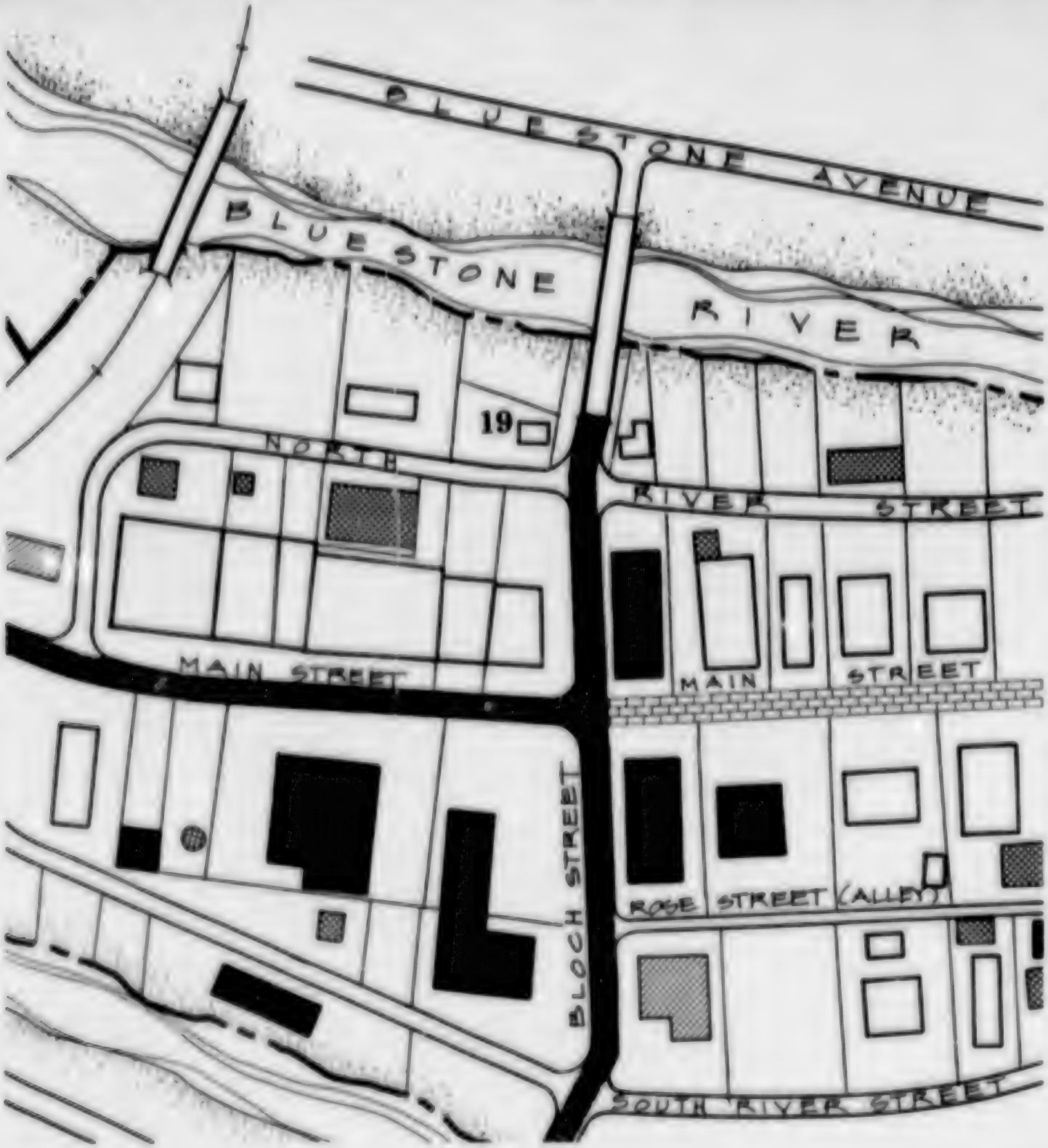

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Small Building (NRD #19)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • 9RAM • 20,020
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

7c

Site Number: 19 – Tax 89.1

Site: Telephone Office **Built:** Style Built 1930 (Tax) Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Lavake, Dianna, Box 153, Freeman, W. Va.

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling/Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Stone – Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Poor.
Other: Clapboard siding in poor condition in places.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.
Fences: Cable railing – Average.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Weeds around the structure are kept cut. The structure has very little landscape but is surrounded by an empty lot on two sides. Since this was a public building, it is likely that little was ever planted around it.

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Site 19: Telephone Office

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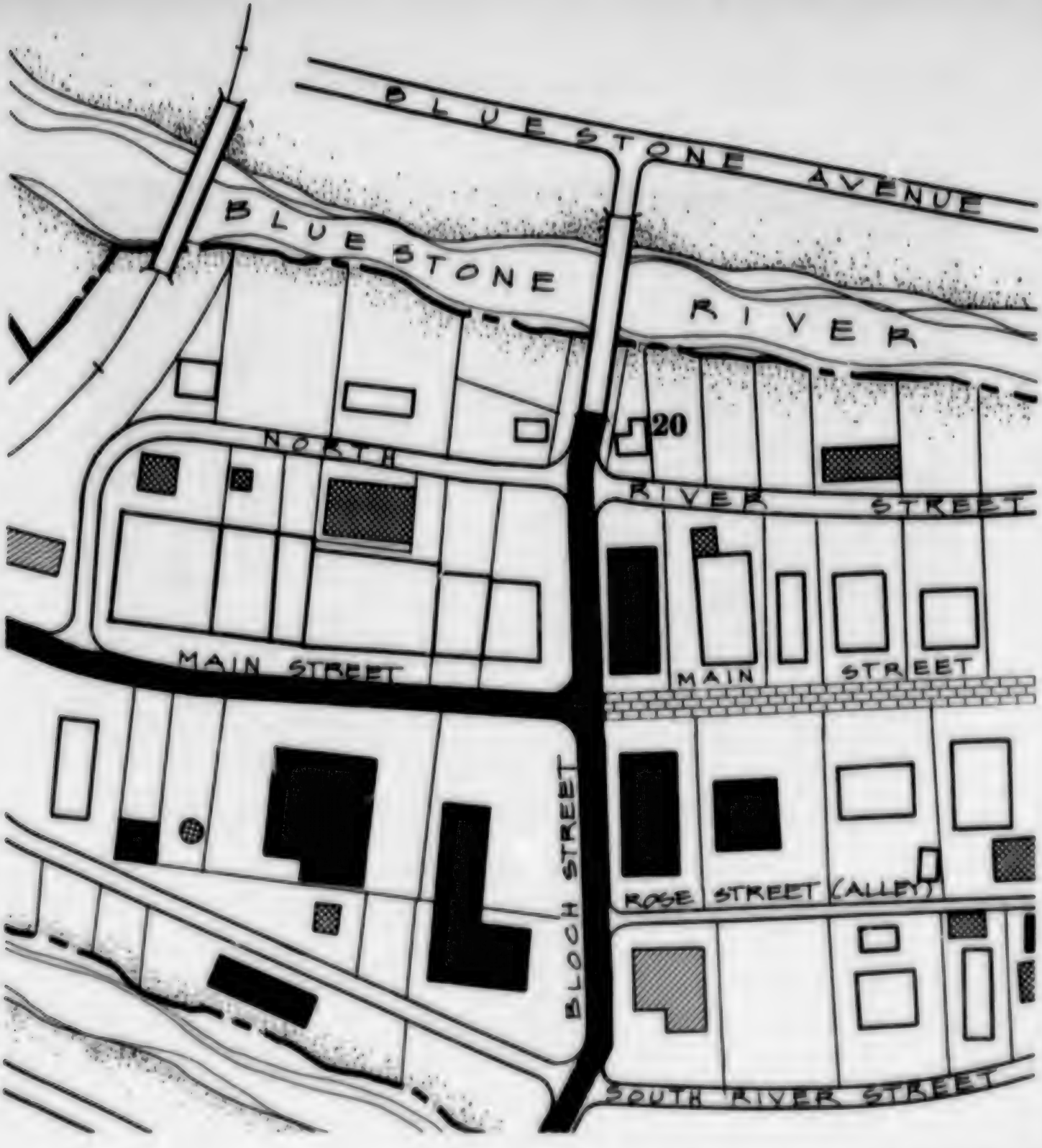

0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A = C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Brick Garage (NRD #20)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 90.021
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 20 – Tax 90

Site: Brick Garage **Built:** Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Neswander, Edward, Box 215, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage/Storage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Masonry and wood frame, shed and gable roofs.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry, addition on stone piers – Poor.
Roof: Metal, standing seam – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average. Two overhead garage doors – Average.
Other:

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor
Walls: Rock – Poor

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Sign on west side
Graveled front

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Weeds kept cut around structure. It is likely that because this was a garage, little landscaping or other activities occurred around it.

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Site 20: Brick Garage

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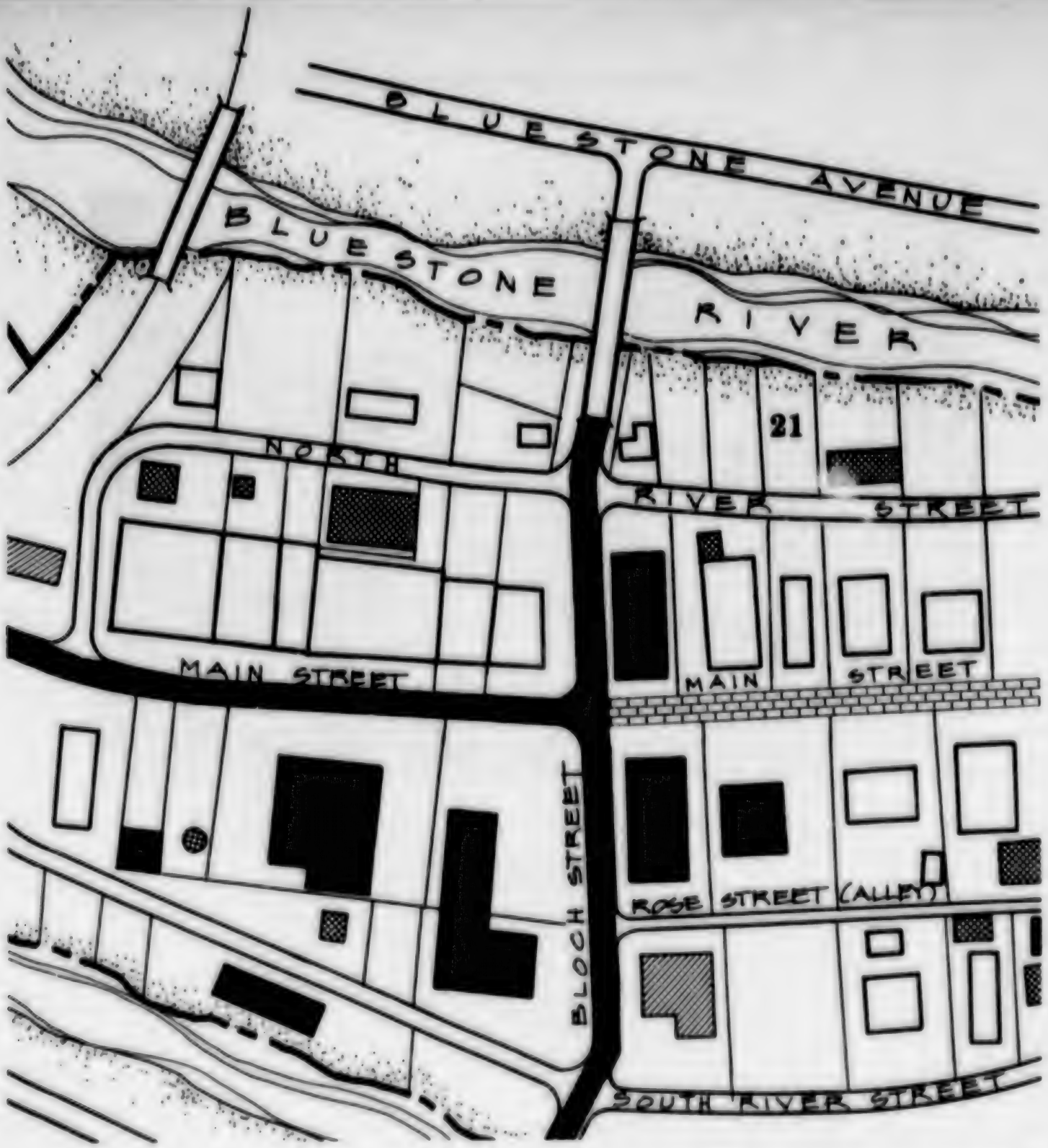

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N

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Garage (NRD #21 – demolished)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,022
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 21 - Tax 96

Site: Garage **Built:** Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Cochran, Douglas P. and Dana, Box 122, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

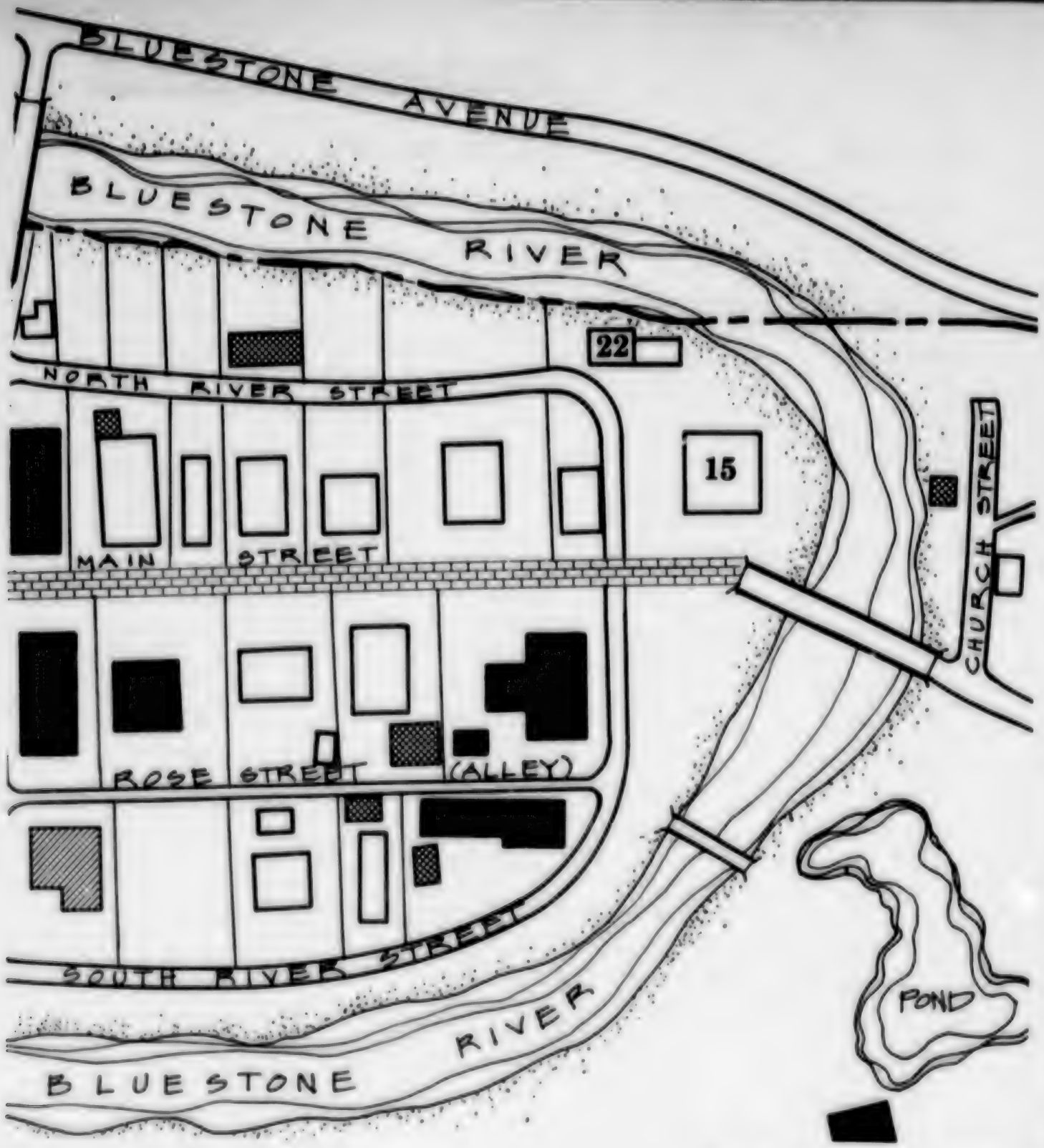
Access:

Current Use:

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data: This building has been demolished.

Style:
Material/Construction Type:
Integrity:
Condition:
Foundation:
Roof:
Windows:
Other:



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National Register Historic District
Pack House (NRD #15)
Cottage & Garage (NRD #22)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,023
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 22 – Tax 97 (See also #15)

Site: Cottage and Garage **Built:** Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Miller, William T.J. & Belle, Box 177, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

House demolished in 1986. Data is for Garage/Cottage.
Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Cottage – Unknown; Garage - Concrete
Sill: Average.
Roof: Cottage, Metal standing seam – Average; Garage, roll roofing – Average.
Windows: Double hung, single glazed – Average; Garage, overhead door – Average.

Other: Original garage has been converted into a tiny cottage having a recently built attached garage.

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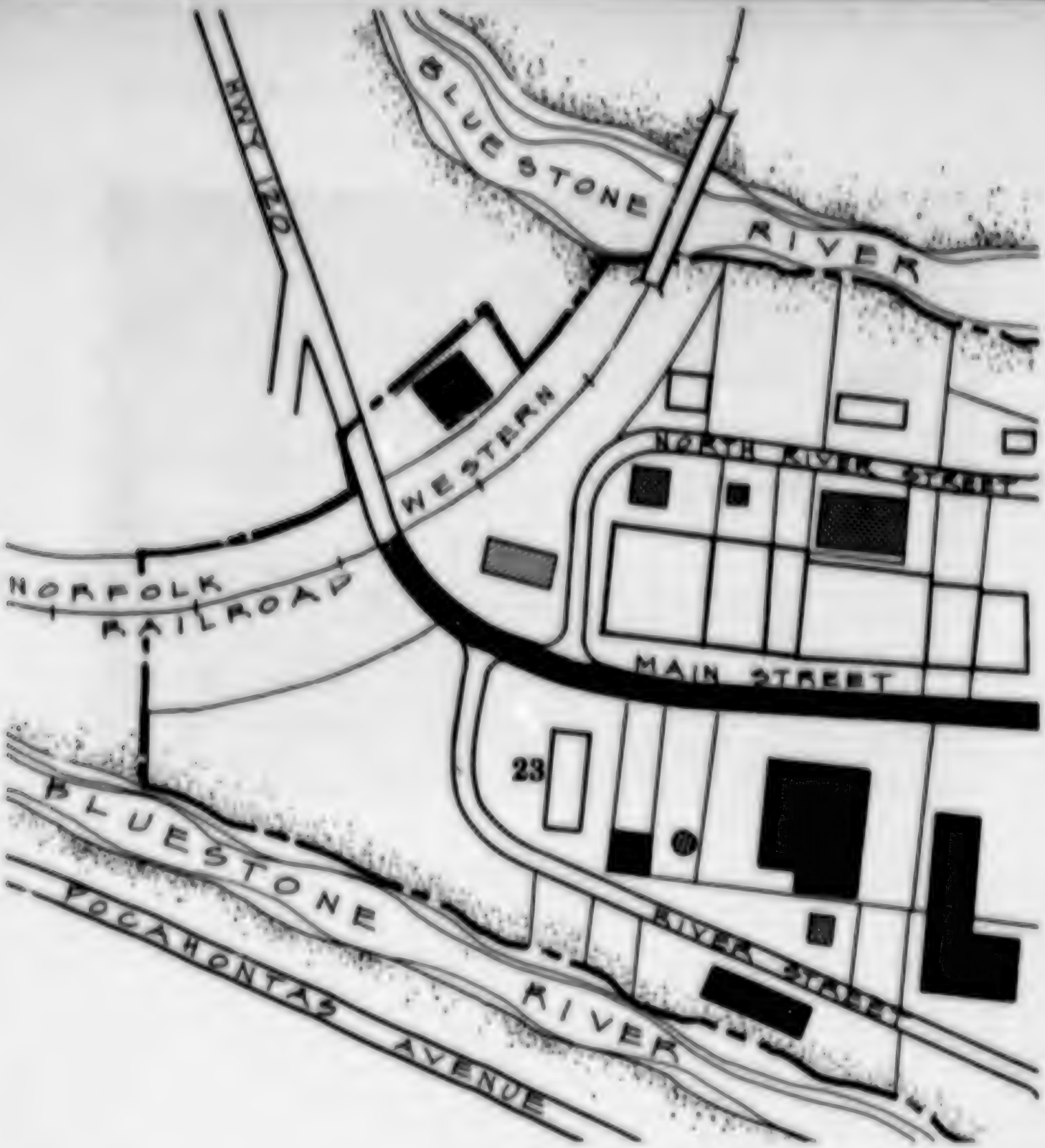
Site 22: Cottage and Garage



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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Cooper Bungalow (NRD #23)
Bramwell, West Virginia

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United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 23 – Tax 115-116

Site: Edward Cooper, Jr. House **Built:** Ca. 1920 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Murphy, Evelyn C. & Harry, Box 308, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Built by Edward Cooper, Sr., for his son following the latter's marriage, the house is known locally as the "Honeymoon Cottage.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Bungalow.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, cable roof with dormers.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Good.
Roof: Asbestos shingles – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other:

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Majority in patching – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Replaced in original configuration – Good.
Fences: Iron – Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Boat stored in side yard
Chain link fence – west

Current Landscape Maintenance: Good.

Comments: No historic vegetation. White pines 40-50 years old.

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Site 23: Edward Cooper, Jr., House

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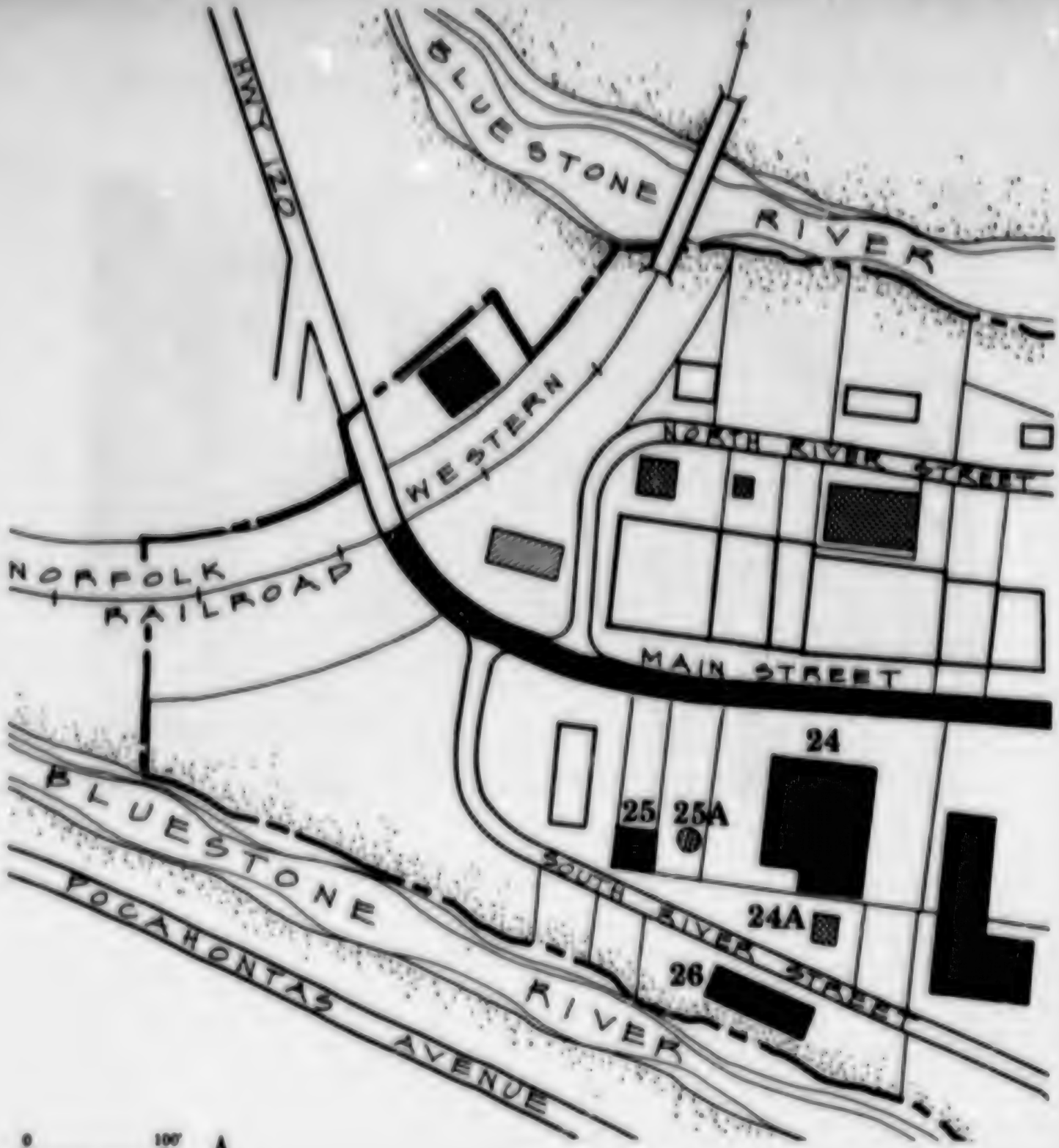

National Register Historic District

Cooper House (NRD #24 & 24A), Indoor Pool (NRD #25 & 25A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #26)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DBC · NOV 91 · BRAM · 20,028
United States Department of the Interior · National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

94

Site Number: 24 (Includes #24A) - Tax 117
(See also #25 & #26)

Site: Edward Cooper, Sr. House **Built:** Style Built: 1910 (Tax) 1910 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Murphy, Evelyn C. & Harry, Box 308, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Edward Cooper, Sr. (1873-1937) was born at Treverton, Pennsylvania, the second son of John Cooper. He was the second generation of his family in the Pocahontas-Flat Top Coalfield, his father having entered the mining business in 1873 in Fayette County, and having opened a mine in Mercer County's Pocahontas Coalfield in 1884 at Mill Creek. John Cooper shipped the first coal from the field in the same year. Edward was an attorney, having graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1893. When his older brother died in 1911, Edward assumed control of the entire complex of his father's businesses, which over his lifetime included the Mill Creek Coal and Coke Co., the McDowell and Crystal Coal Co., the Pocahontas Consolidated Co. and the Flat Top Fuel Co. He was a member of Congress from 1914 to 1918. His house was under construction at the time of the 1910 Bramwell fire, and its brick exterior and copper roof may reflect the impact of that event.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Queen Anne.
Material/Construction Type: Brick and stone masonry, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Good.
Roof: Copper sheathing - Good.
Windows: Double hung - Fair.

Other: Recent playhouse (24A) and brick dog house in back yard. Stucco addition on west rear; pipe railing on rear porch. Rear doors modified.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt covering historic brick - Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Contain patching - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Contain patching - Good.
Walls: Stone - Good.
Fences: Iron - Good.

Trees: Norway maple (3); american elm (1); tree of heaven. (1) – All Average.
Other: Grape arbor. Average. Ponds (2) empty – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Asphalt paving
Gas tank for pool
Utility pole in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Some local residents claim that these grounds were professionally designed, although the descendent of the original owner believes they were designed by the original owner's wife. Historic trees: norway maples (*Acer platanoides*), identification is not certain, nor is that of the tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). American elm (*Ulmus americana*) has been pruned in the past affecting its form.

Cooper House:

Hemlock hedge added in late 1930s.
Gingko grew where birches presently exist.
Elms planted wh n house was built; one recently cut down.
Tree of heaven – Ailanthus glandulosa.
Chinese chestnut – Planted 30 years ago where vegetable garden used to be.
Lilacs (some appear historic).
Holly (appear historic).
Forsythia (appear historic).
Fringe bush (appear historic).

In the back of the house, there was a large circular bed now replaced by lawn and a paved drive to the coal cellar. Flower beds around house have been grassed in with some shrubs.

Indoor Pool:

Walkway to pool house lined with peonies, rose of sharon, daylilies and yucca. This structure's landscape is the least changed of all three.

Garage Apartment:

Storm/flood of January 1957 washed away significant portions of the bank, a historic willow, shed, stable foundations.

Recent re-vegetation includes maples, hemlocks, lilac (may be from historic stock), dogwood. white pine along S. River Road planted in 1930s.

At present, vegetable garden located adjacent to apartment/garage (not historic location).

Site 24: Edward Cooper, Sr. House, front

Site 24: Edward Cooper, Sr. House, rear

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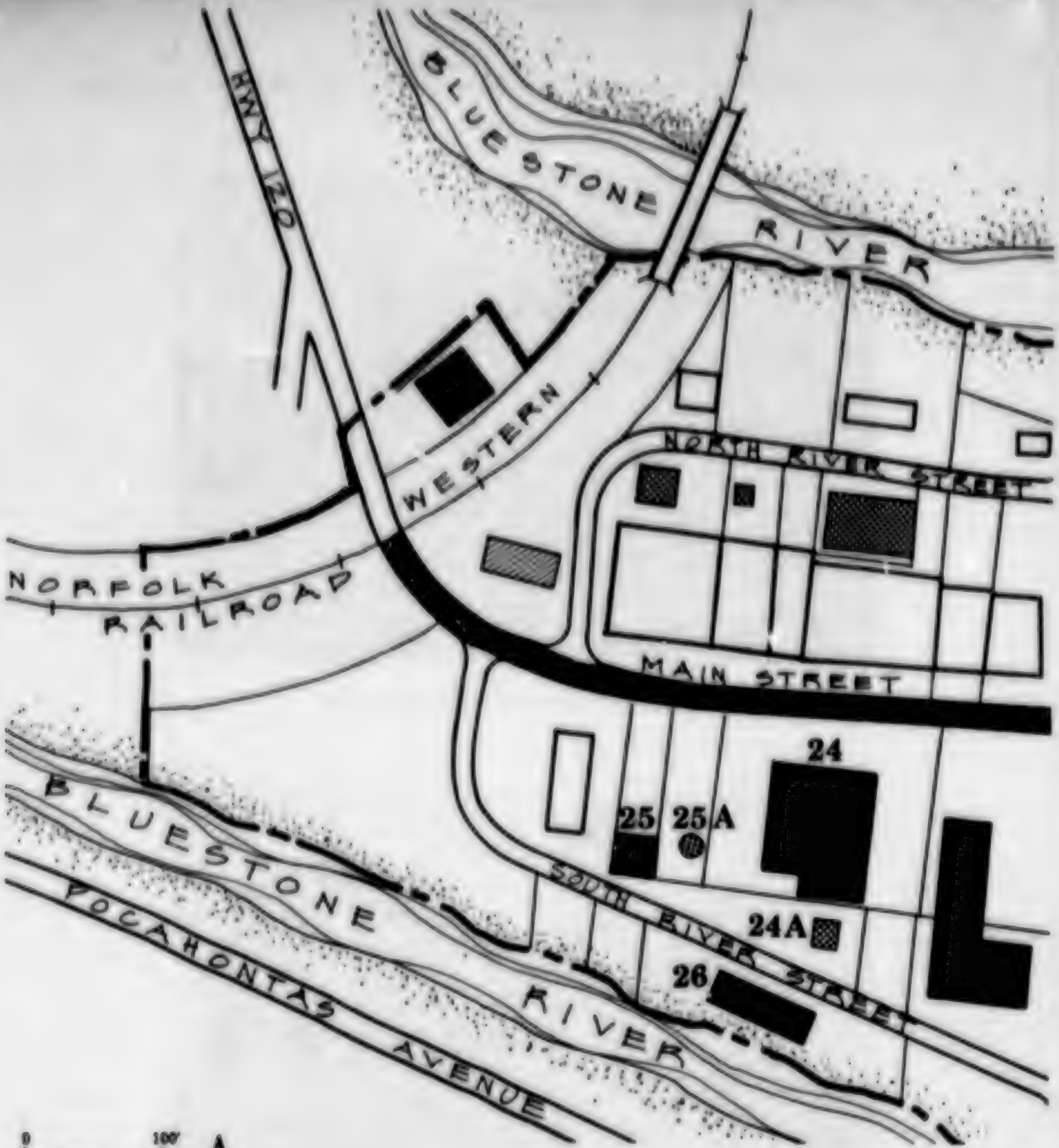

National Register Historic District

Cooper House (NRD #24 & 24A), Indoor Pool (NRD #25 & 25A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #26)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 81 • BRAM • 20,035
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 25 (Includes #25A) - Tax 117
(See also #24 & #26)

Site: Cooper Indoor Pool House **Built:** Style Built 1910 (Tax) 1910 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Murphy, Evelyn C. & Harry, Box 308, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: See Edward Cooper House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Swimming Pool.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Queen Anne/Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Good.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Good.
Windows: Double hung - Fair.
Other: A pergola (25A) is located near this building.

Site 25: Cooper Indoor Pool House, front

Site 25: Cooper Indoor Pool House, rear

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Site 25A: Cooper Pergola

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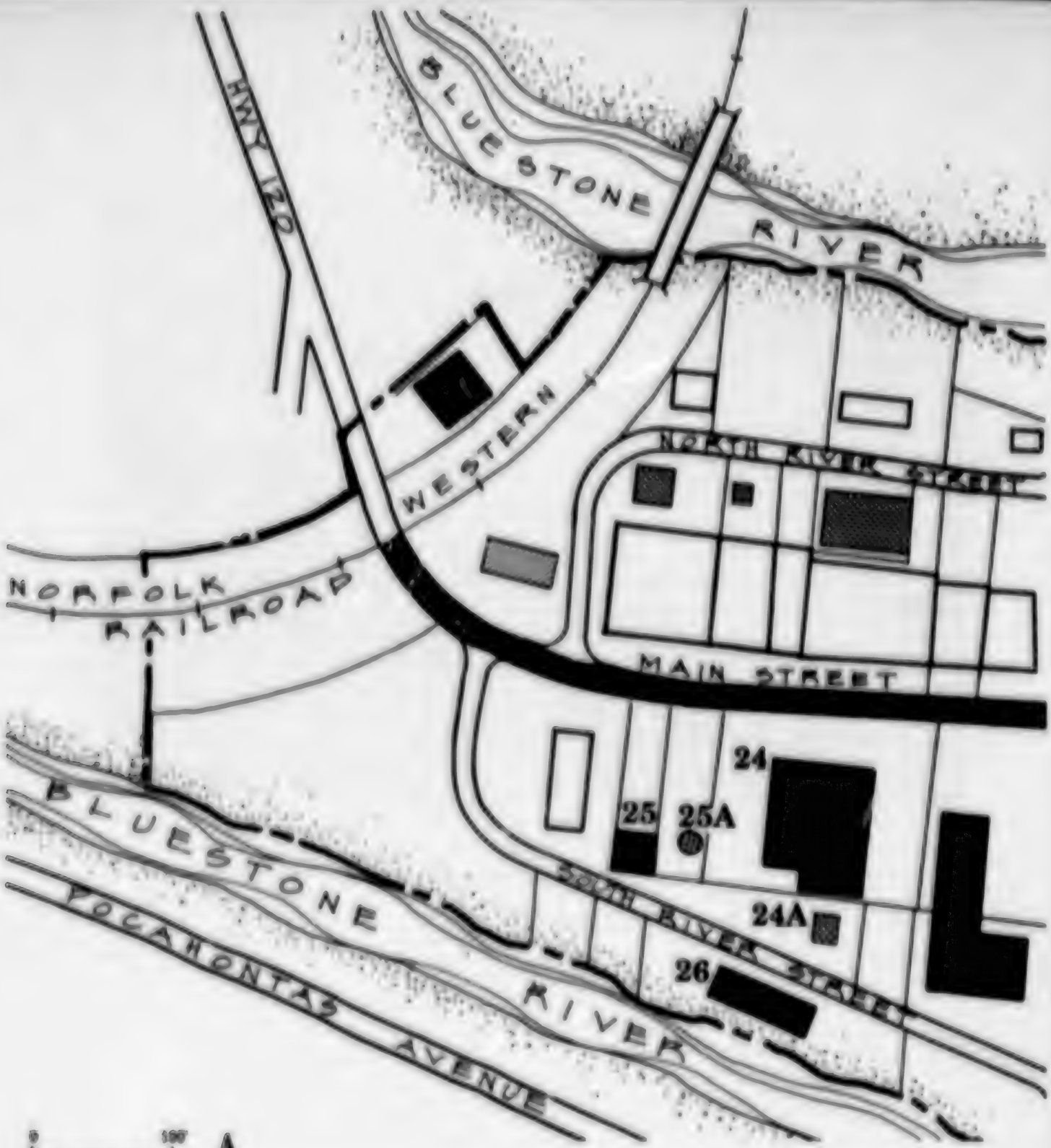

National Register Historic District
Cooper House (NRD #24 & 24A), Indoor Pool (NRD #25 & 25A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #26)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,000
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 26 - Tax 138
(See also #24 & #25)

Site: Cooper Carriage House/Garage Quarters

Built: Style Built 1910 (Tax) 1910 (NRD)

Address: River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Murphy, Evelyn C. & Harry, Box 308, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: See Edward Cooper House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Queen Anne.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone - Average.
Roof: Copper sheathing - Good.
Windows: Double hung and casement - Fair.

Other: Quarters on second floor. Building may have evidence of stalls or partitions which suggest it originally housed carriages.

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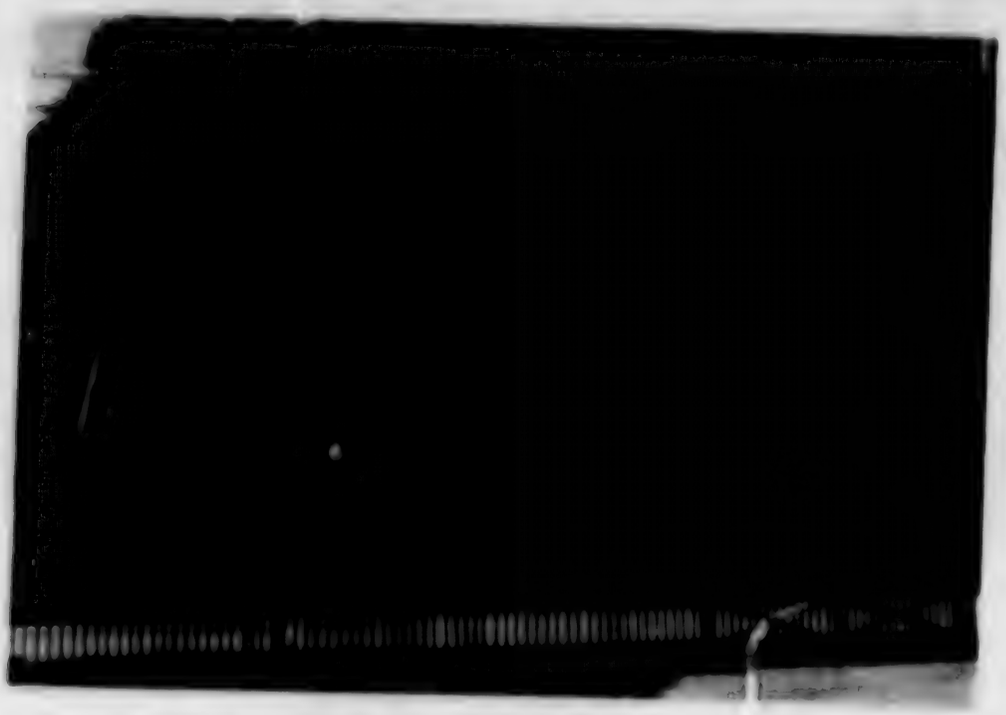

Site 26: Cooper Carriage House/Garage/Quarters, front

Site 26: Cooper Carriage House/Garage/Quarters, rear

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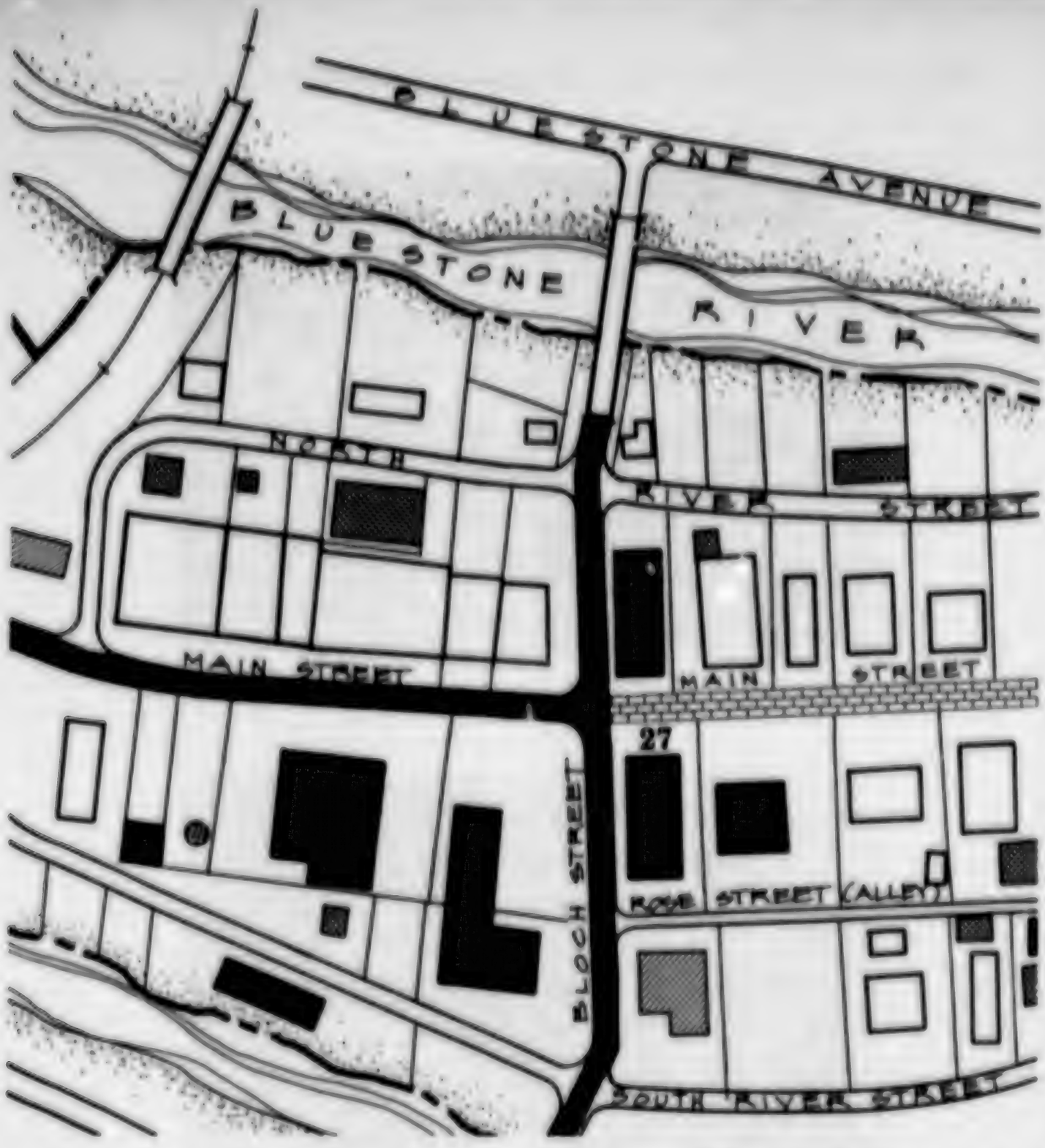

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Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

Numbers correspond to national nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Bank of Bramwell (NRD #27)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 30,026
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 27 – Tax 124

Site: Bank of Bramwell **Built:** Style Built 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1893 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Barnett, Robert V. & Laverne, Box 278, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: The Bank of Bramwell was founded in response to the enormous growth of mining activity in the Pocahontas-Flat Top Coalfield in the 1890s. How James E. Mann of Alderson, West Virginia was moved to initiate the foundation of the bank is not certainly known. However, the bank was incorporated in 1889 with Mann's nephew, J.T. Mann, as Cashier. Its original stockholders read like a list of the land company's local agents and mine operators (Bramwell, Cooper, Welch, Deehring), and its ownership and board of directors continued to be dominated by those business interests throughout its life. Long managed by I.T. Mann, whose considerable financial skills made him powerful and wealthy beyond the borders of West Virginia, the bank consistently returned astonishing profits to its owners. It was the major financial organization for coal field operations and development, as well as being a depository for state of West Virginia funds. Its failure in 1933 may be linked to Mann's death in 1932. Liquidation was not completed until 1958. The bank building was constructed in 1893, and redecorated by Mann sometime before 1910.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling/Office.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Robert Barnett publishes a monthly newspaper from his offices on the first floor of the building. He and his wife live on the second floor. Recently returned to Bramwell, they regard the building as their home.

Physical Data:

Style: Italianate.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Good.
Roof: Composition – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Good.

Other: Some interior elements are gone, but much remains. Second floor has been converted into apartment.

Historic Landscape Condition: Good.

Streets: Brick and asphalt covered brick – Poor-Average.
Public Sidewalks: Front – Poor. Side of house – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Iron – Average. Post and wire – Poor.
Trees: Silver maple (2), sugar maple (1) – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Highway signs
Utility pole
Bird feeder/yard ornamentation

Current Landscape Maintenance: Good.

Comments: Silver maples were pruned when one was struck by lightning at which time both were severely cut back. Sugar maple is in a state of decline according to G. Bailey. Roots buckling historical sidewalk in front. Brick paving emerges from asphalt in front of house. Other vegetation: rhododendrons, forsythia, dogwood, cherry/plum in back. This landscape is relatively unaltered from the 1920s. With minor effort, the rating for this yard could be excellent.

Site 27: Bank of Bramwell, front

Site 27:
Bank of Bramwell, rear

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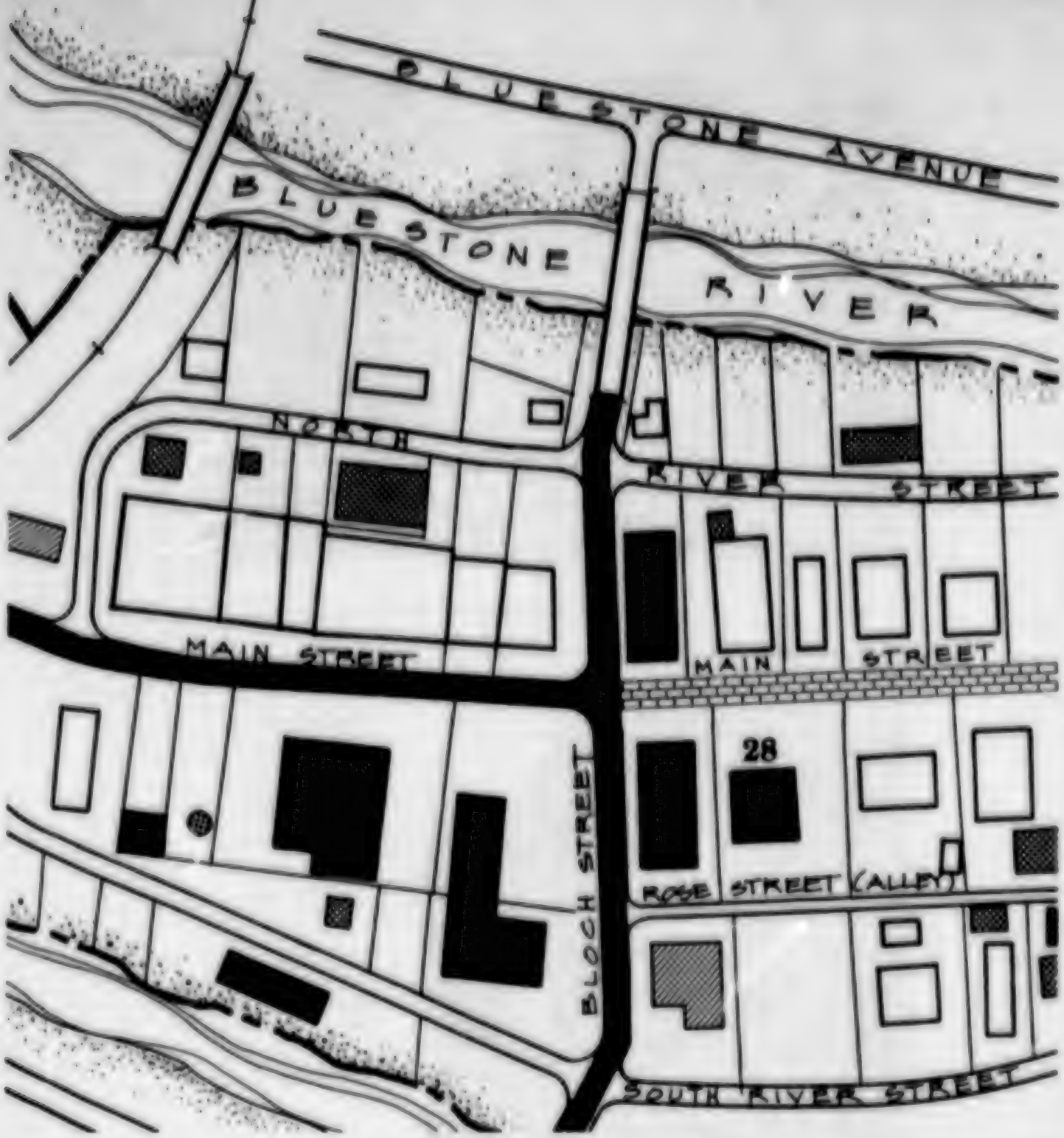

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

National Register Historic District
Perry House (NRD #28)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,037
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 28 – Tax 125

Site: J.B. Perry House **Built:** Style Built 1902 (Tax) 1901-1903

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Sacre, Charles M. III and Charlotte, Box 348, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: J.B. Perry (1865-1935) came to Bramwell in 1889 from Fort Spring, Greenbrier County, West Virginia. He was assistant cashier for the Bank of Bramwell from its founding and this house is next door to the bank. It is believed to have been built for Perry by the bank. Perry was descended from an old West Virginia family having two Revolutionary War veterans and a Presbyterian minister in their number. He was educated at Dunsmore Business College in Stanton, Virginia and worked for the Bank of Bramwell until it closed in 1933. Note should be made of Isaac T. Mann's origins in Greenbrier County.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Eastern Stick Style.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, half timber, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone – Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, single glazed, operating shutters – Good.
Other: Sun room addition in rear appears to be relatively early.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.
Private Sidewalks: To rebuilt porch – Good.
Fences: Iron – Good. Post and wire with #27 – Poor.
Trees: Sugar maple – Average. Chestnut – Poor. Spruce – Good.

Other: Light standards not in original location with modern lights – Average. Iron railing on streets – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Concrete block parking pad
Chain link fence
Railroad tie planter bed
Gravel parking area

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Norwegian spruce planted at Charlotte Perry's wedding in 1928. Other vegetation: hemlock (3), bradford pear (1), peach (1), pink dogwood (5), yew, rhododendron, azalea, cedar.

Site 28: J.B. Perry House, front

Site 28: J.B. Perry House, rear

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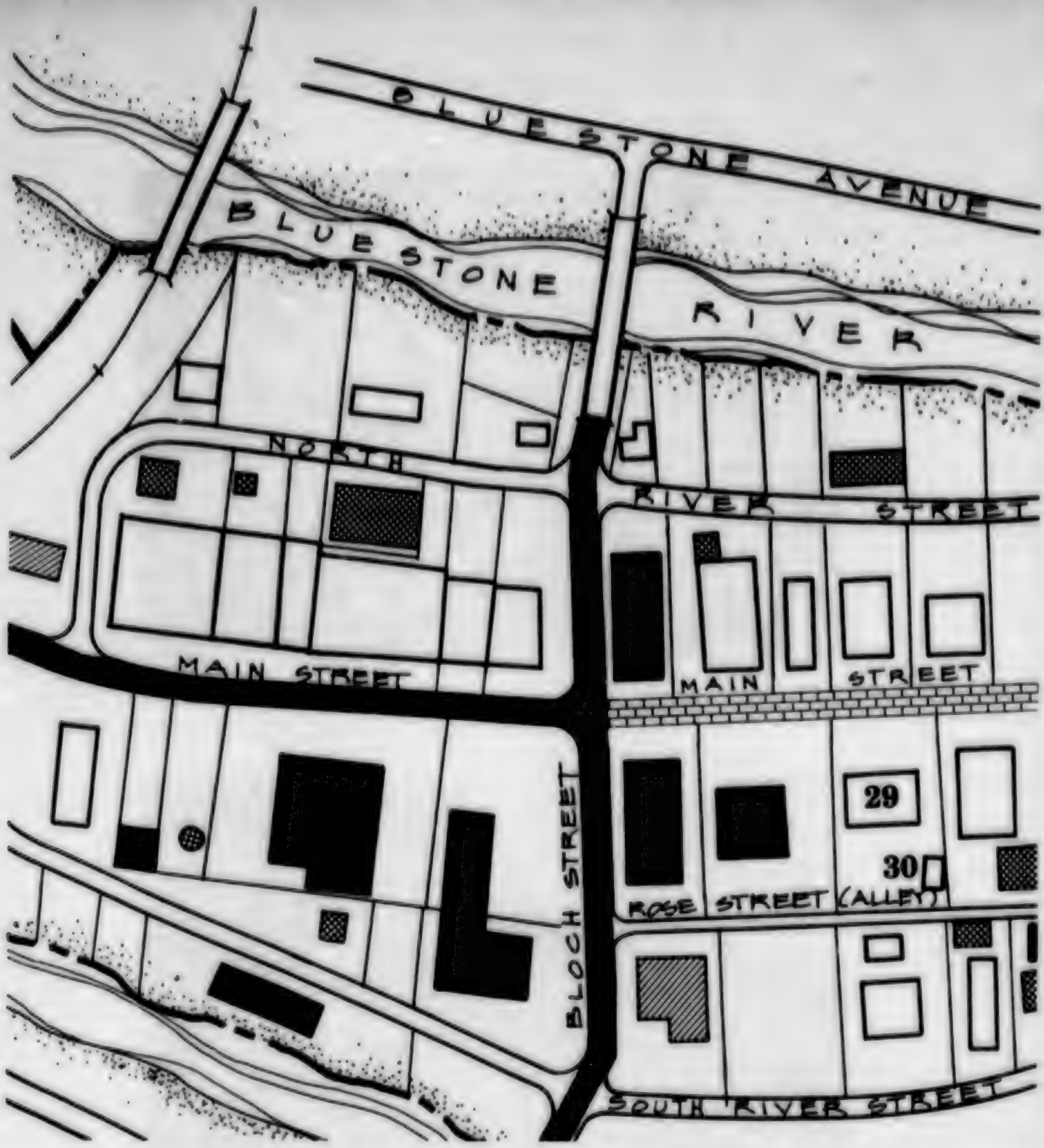

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National Register Historic District

Hickman House (NRD #29) & Garage (NRD #30)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,028
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 29 – Tax 126 (See also #30)

Site: Walker House **Built:** Style Built 1920 (Tax) Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hickman, Anne W., Box 366, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross and clipped gable.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation:
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: House extensively remodeled after 1930.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Brick – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Some patching – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Some patching – Average.
Other: Wire/metal frame gate – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fence
Iron railing to house

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Vegetation: Hemlock hedge planted in place of fence in front, rhododendrons, 4 dogwood (2 possibly historic), red bud, forsythia, lilac. Old clothes line in back possibly historic.

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Site 29: Walker House

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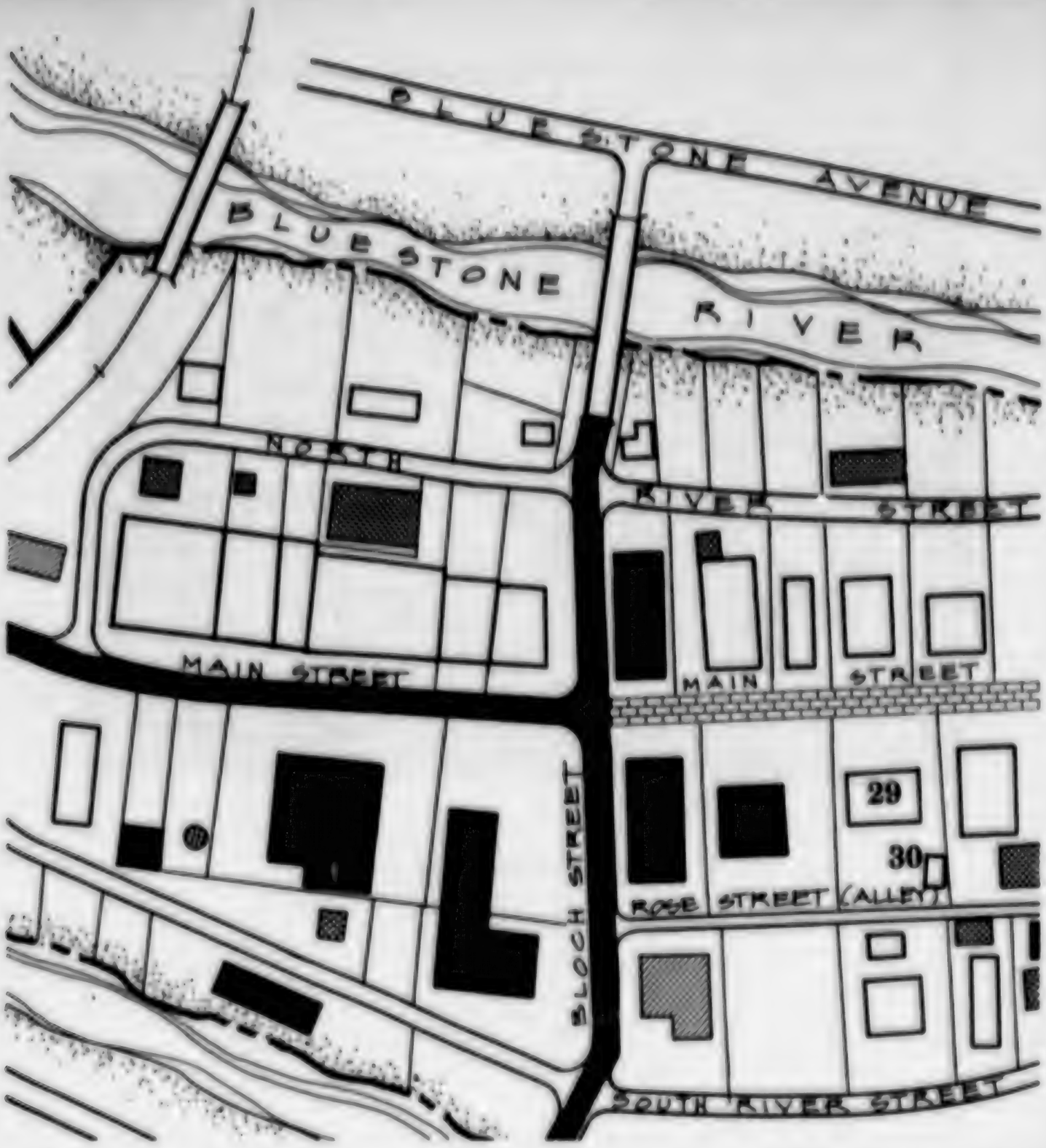


0 100' 200'

N

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

National Register Historic District

Hickman House (NRD #29) & Garage (NRD #30)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,028
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 30 – Tax 126 (See also #29)

Site: Walker Garage **Built:** Style Built 1920 (Tax)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hickman, Anne W., Box 366, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

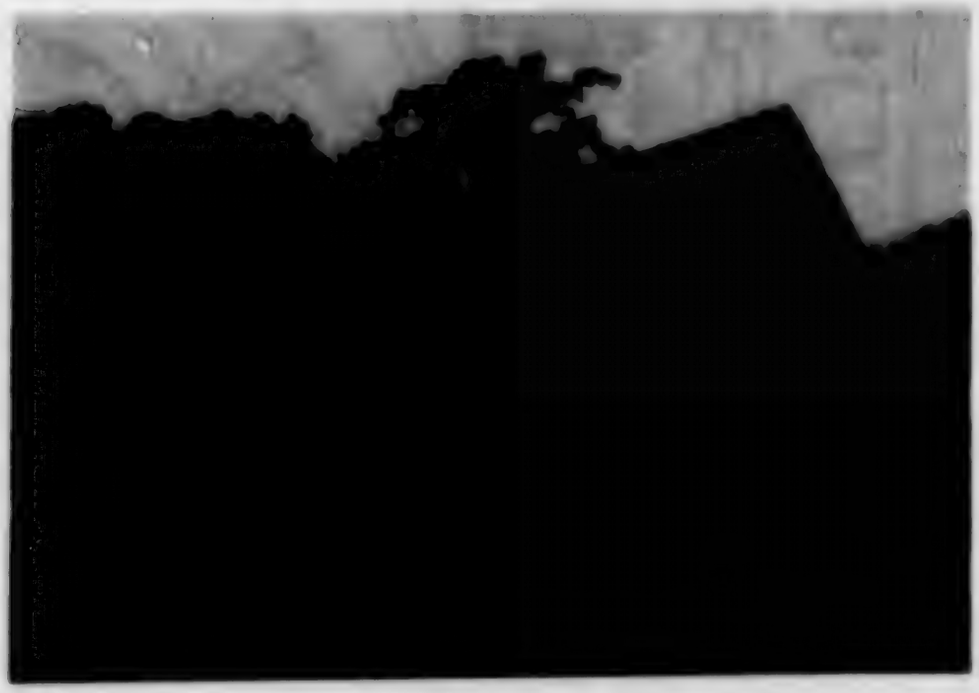
Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation:
Roof: Roll roofing – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average. Overhead garage doors – Average.
Other:



Site 30: Walker Garage

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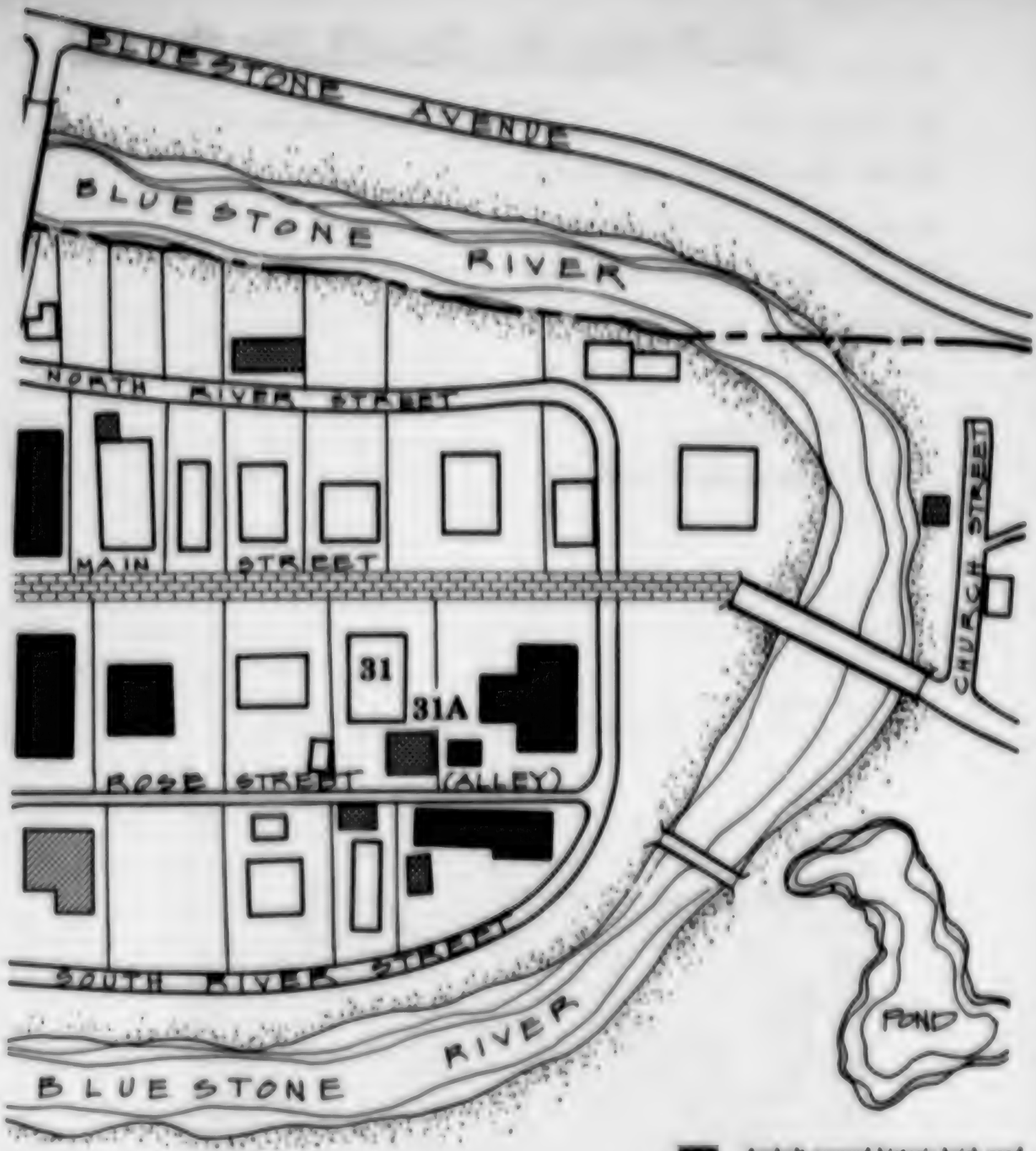

National Register Historic District

Meyers House (NRD #31 & 31A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DBC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,039
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 31 (Includes #31A) - Tax 127

Site: Meyers House **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) Ca. 1892 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Foster, William H. and Juanita, Box 163, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Meyers was I.T. Mann's father-in-law.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, hip roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry, stuccoed - Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Average.
Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl siding. Recent garage (31A) in rear.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Brick - Average.
Public Sidewalks: Repaved in original configuration - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Picket - Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Iron railing to house
Astro turf carpet on porch
Lamp post

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: No historic vegetation. Plant material includes forsythia, holly, dogwood and rose of sharon. Picket fence may not be historical.

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Site 31: Meyers House

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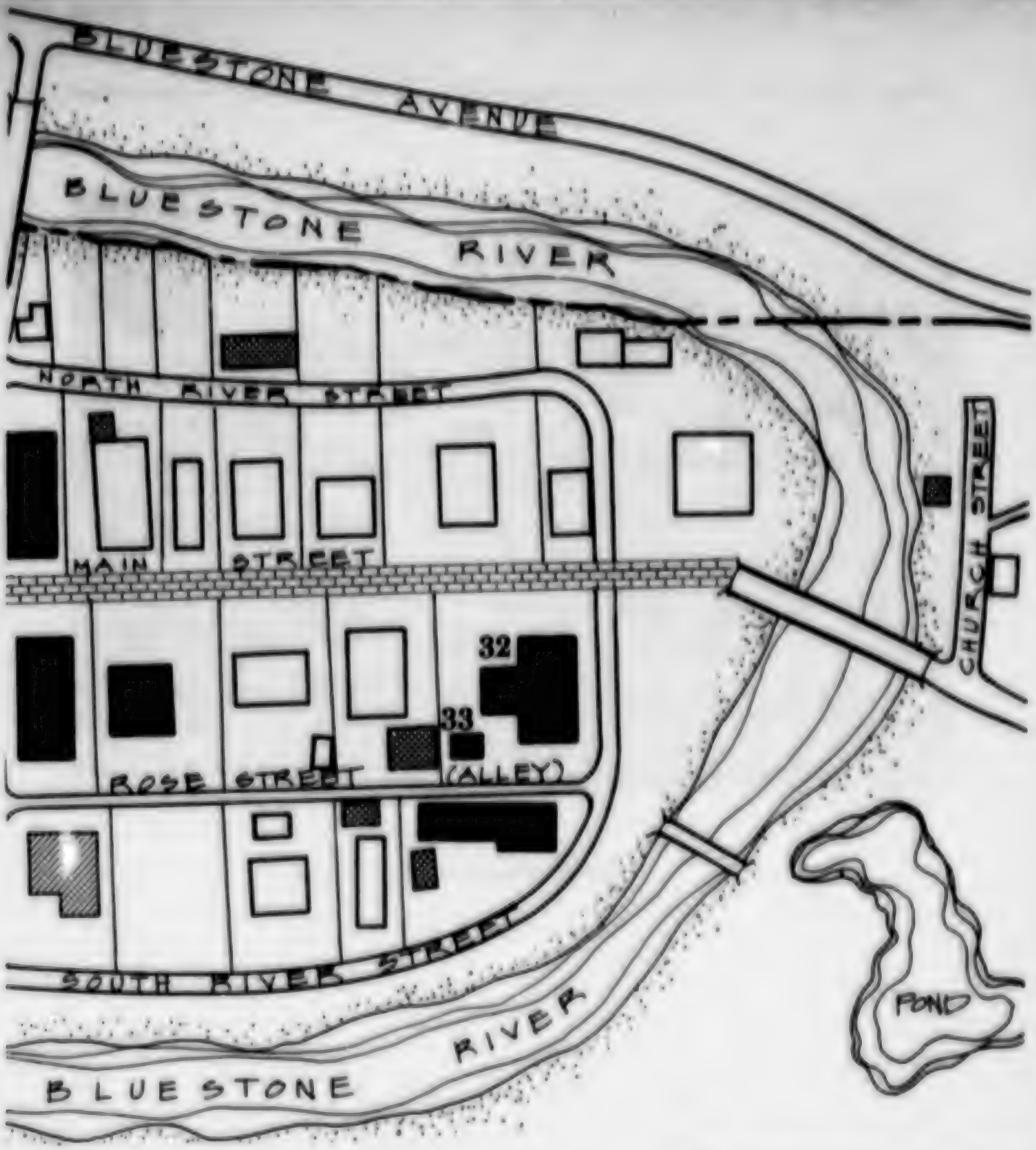

National Register Historic District
Hewitt House (NRD #32)
& Garage Apartment (NRD #33)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,030
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 32 – Tax 128 (See also #33)

Site: Katherine Hewitt House **Built:** Style Built 1914 (Tax) 1914-15 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Harrison, James L. and Cheryl, 367 New Hope Road, Princeton, W. Va. 24740

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: This house was built by Hewitt's widow, Katharine, seven years after his death, on the site of their own earlier house, which was demolished for the purpose. John D. Hewitt (1847-1903) was born in Lancashire, England and emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1862, where he ultimately found work in the anthracite mines. He served in the Civil War and returned to mining in Pennsylvania. In 1886, with partners from Roanoke, Virginia and Pennsylvania, he founded what became the Buckeye Coal and Coke Co. The firm leased 900 acres of the Pocahontas Number 3 bed, and was the fifth mine opened in the field. After being reached by Norfolk and Western rail service, Buckeye built the first coke ovens in the field. In 1906, the Buckeye Mines shipped 100,000 tons of coal and 20,000 tons of coke, employing 200 men. Hewitt also had interests in the Keystone Company. Hewitt was Bramwell's first mayor, active in the Masons and an Episcopalian.

The Hewitt's lived with another family when they first came to West Virginia, then over the Buckeye Company store in Freeman. They then purchased the Main Street property and the two houses located on that land. They lived in the larger of the two for the remainder of John Hewitt's life.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling/Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: The house has been for sale since October 1990. Its list price is $239,950.00.

Physical Data:

Style: Craftsman/Colonial Revival.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, hip and gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Tile (some tiles missing) – Fair.
Windows: Casement and double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: No major modifications

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Brick on side – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Good.
Fences: Iron – Good.
Trees: Oak (3) – Average. Holly (2) – Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Air Conditioning units in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: This landscape has changed significantly. Across South River Street used to be a large rose garden. The grounds appear to have been professionally landscaped since the end of WW II. One of the four oaks on Main Street has died. All have been heavily pruned. Sidewalks in back were poured at a different time than out front. Other vegetation include yew, rhododendrons, pieris, mahonia, ivy, azalea, boxwood, oriental holly.

Site 32: Katharine Hewitt House, front

Site 32: Katharine Hewitt House, rear

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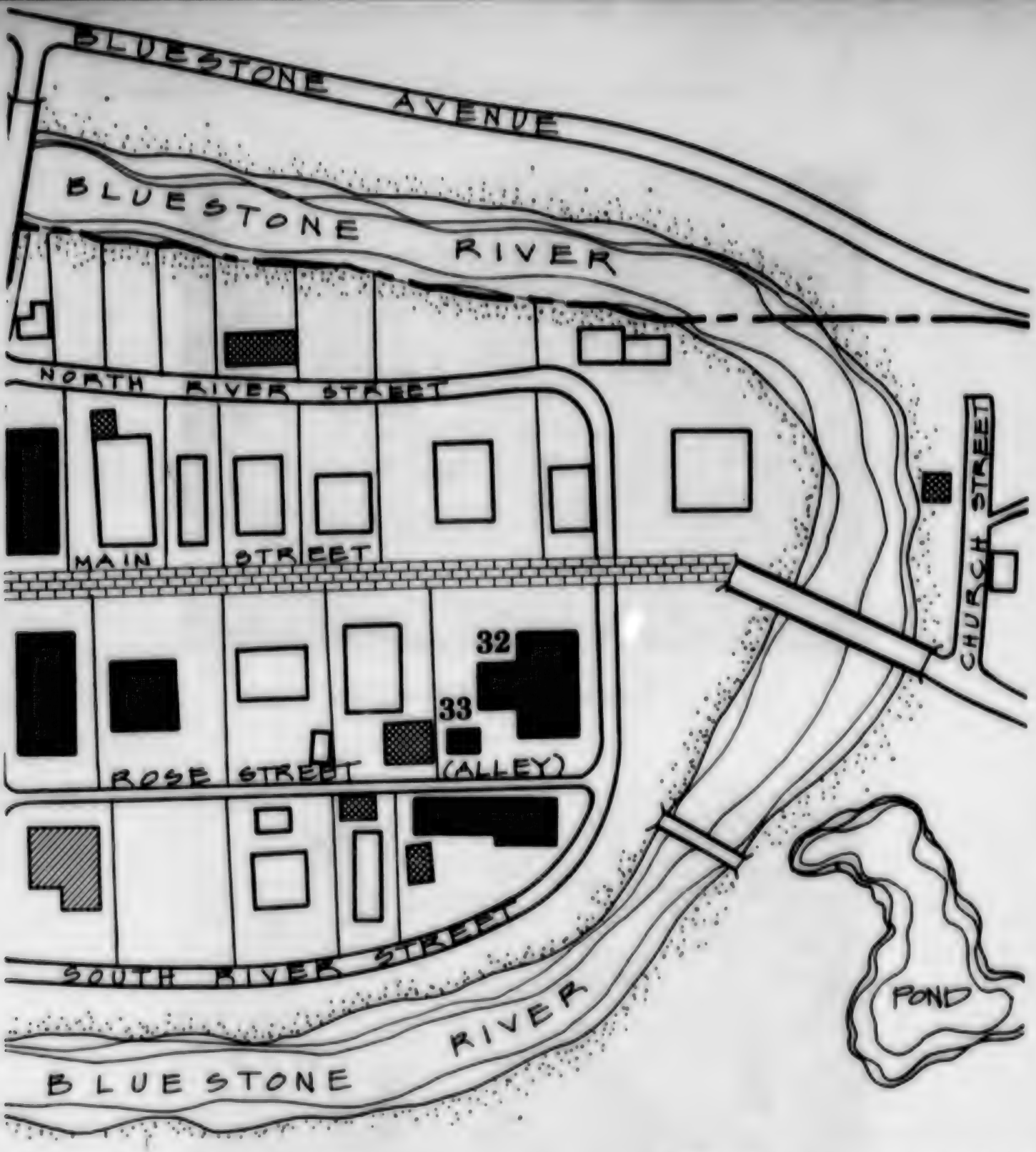

National Register Historic District
Hewitt House (NRD #32) & Garage Apartment (NRD #33)
Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,030
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 33 – Tax 128 (See also #32)

Site: Hewitt Garage/Quarters **Built:** Style Built 1914 (Tax) 1914-15 (NRD)

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Harrison, James L. and Cheryl, 367 Ne 'ope Road, Princeton, W. Va. 24740

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: See Hewitt House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage – Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: The garage/quarters is for sale with the house.

Physical Data:

Style: Craftsman/Colonial Revival.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Tile. Poor (tiles loose and missing).
Windows: Casement, single glazed – Average.
Other:

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Site 33: Hewitt Garage/Quarters, front

Site 33: Hewitt Garage/Quarters, rear

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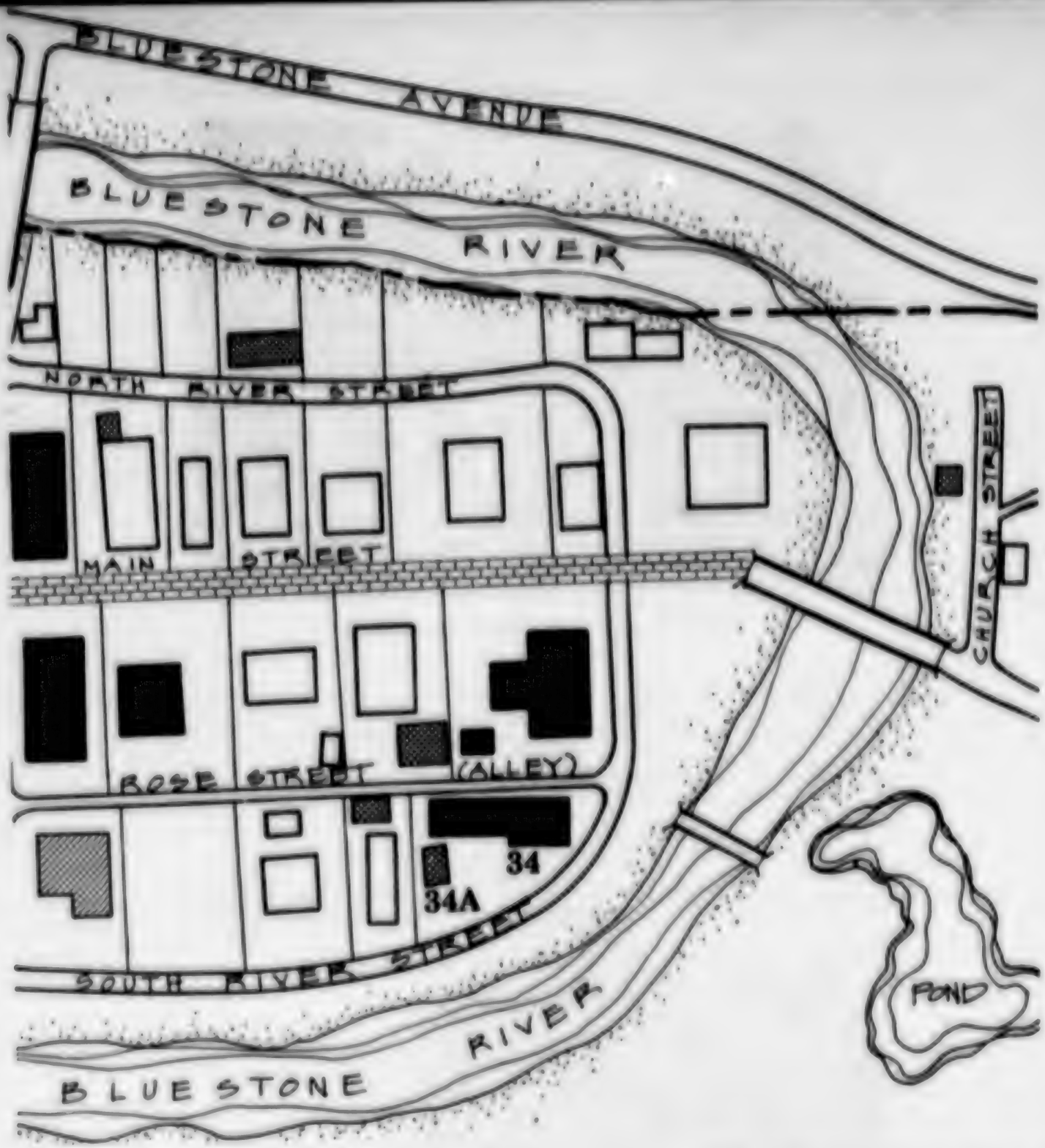

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National Register Historic District
Mann House (Pivotal)
(NRD #34 & 34A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,031
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 34 (Includes #34A) - Tax 129

Site: I. T. Mann House **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) 1909 (NRD)

Address: South River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Beard, Kenneth W. and Billee, Box 142, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Isaac T. Mann (1863-1932) was born in Fort Spring, Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Mann's education was not distinguished. He entered the banking business at his father's (Matthew Mann) Alderson, West Virginia bank, and was brought to Bramwell by his uncle, James Mann, who was one of the founders of the Bramwell Bank. Beginning as cashier, Mann later became president of the bank. It was the platform from which he projected himself into a complex group of business activities associated with the Pocahontas-Flat Top Coalfield. In 1895, he became treasurer of the Pocahontas Coal Co., the marketing firm organized by coal operators, which quickly became the dominant marketing agency for Pocahontas Coal (70% of the field's total production). In 1892, with J.H. Bramwell, one of the largest lease holders in the field, he entered the coal mining business. He became president of Elk Ridge Coal and Coke Co. at Bramwell's death. The company shipped 182,168 tons of coal and 40,663 tons of coke between 1863 and 1896. In 1896, it employed 150 men. Mann served on the board of directors of the First National Bank of Bluefield where a relative, Edwin Mann, was president; he was president of Edward Cooper's Bramwell Accident Insurance Co., a casualty firm selling insurance to miners; and of the Greenbrier Coal and Coke Co. and the Tidewater Coal and Coke Co. He later consolidated a number of coal companies into the Pocahontas Fuel Co., the largest production company in the field. Mann's business associations reached much beyond Bramwell or the Pocahontas field. His financial success was considerable, and his interest turned to politics. He was unsuccessful in an effort to win a seat in the United States Senate. His fortune was eroded with the decline of coal business during the late 1920s and lost during the Great Depression that began in 1929. He died before the Bank of Bramwell closed and his enormous debt greatly delayed and complicated the liquidation of that institution.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Edwardian Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-cable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Brick masonry - Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Average.

Other: Remodeled from an earlier structure in 1909, and perhaps one other time at an even earlier date. Lattice wood shed (34A) at side.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Asphalt overlay: Average.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Picket (historical?) - Good.
Trees: Hemlock (1) - Good. Holly (3) - Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Lattice wood shed

Current Landscape Maintenance: Good.

Comments: The white pines which front the South River Road were planted in the 1930s. The land is part of the Mann Playhouse property. Nine of the row of pines front the Mann house. Plantings around the house appear recent and include purple leaf plum (1), blue spruce (3), rhododendron, juniper, magnolia, cedar and peonies.

Site 34: I.T. Mann House, front

Site 34: I.T. Mann House, rear

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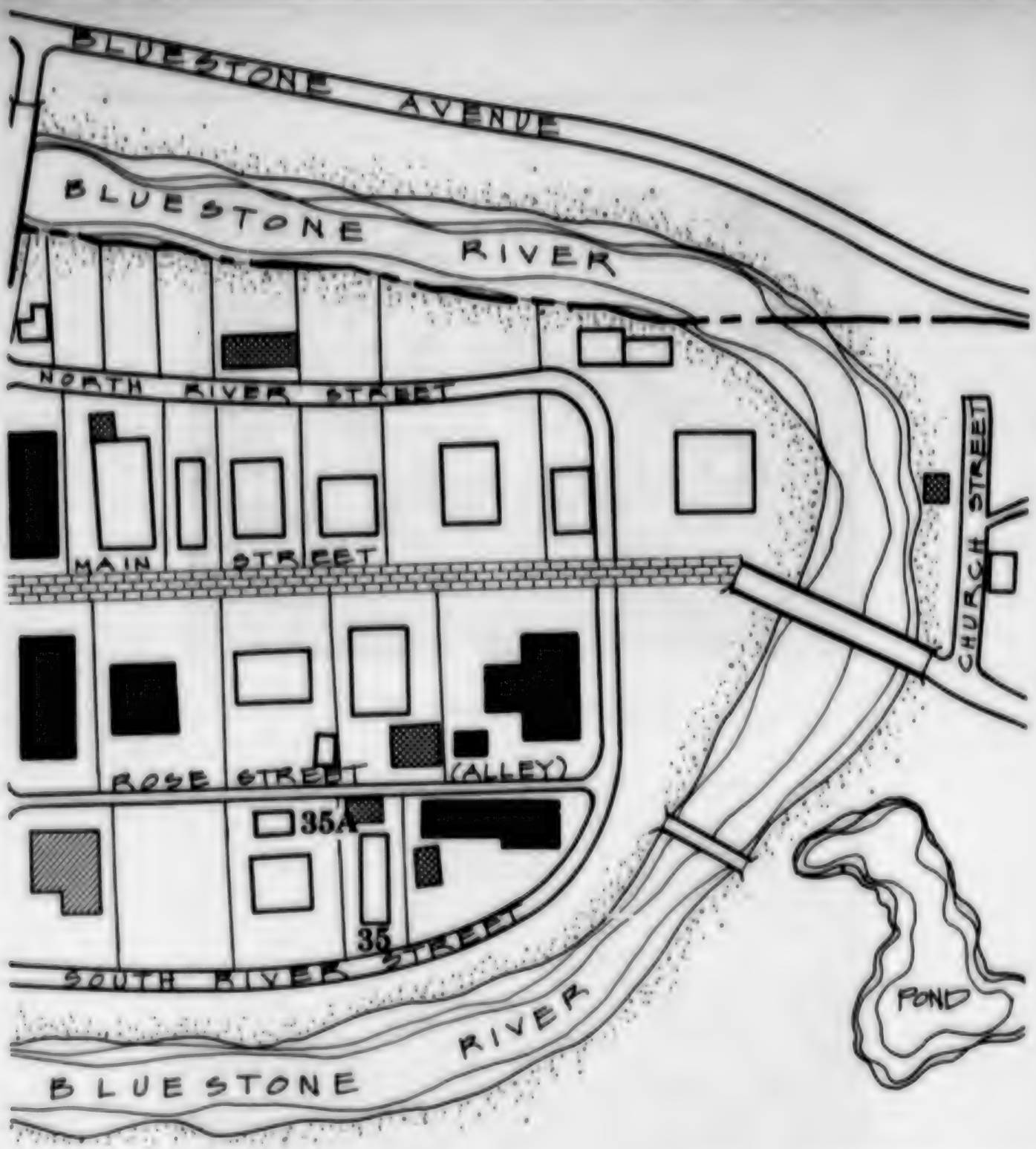

National Register Historic District

Former Presbyterian Manse (NRD #35 & 35A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,032
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 35 (Includes #35A) – Tax 130

Site: Former Presbyterian Manse **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) Ca. 1892 (NRD)

Address: South River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Anello, Alma M., Bramwell, W. Va.

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: The Bramwell Presbyterian Church, first organized in 1890, purchased this Manse for its pastors between 1908 and 1915. It is not known where the first four pastors lived, but two served other churches as well and perhaps lived nearer those congregations. In 1908, Reverend J. Shannon Montgomery arrived, and the manse was probably bought for him. Subsequently, Reverend A.H. Rachal, W.H. Foard, Joseph S. Jones, Elvin H. Roberts, John F. Conner, Lawson Owen Wyatt, C.H. Patterson, and Acie Bryant have ministered to the congregation.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Edwardian Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation:
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.

Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl and shingles. Porch partially enclosed. Metal porch railing. A recent garage (35A) is located at the rear of this structure.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Recent poor in back – Good.
Trees: Spruce (2) – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Iron railing to porches
Concrete planter in front
Round log planter in back
Wood fence in back
Aluminum porch cover with gutters in back

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: The structure and landscape have been altered to such a degree that it has little historic character. Vegetation includes rhododendrons, holly, azaleas, boxwood, yew, ivy and pachasandra.

Site 38: Former Presbyterian Manse

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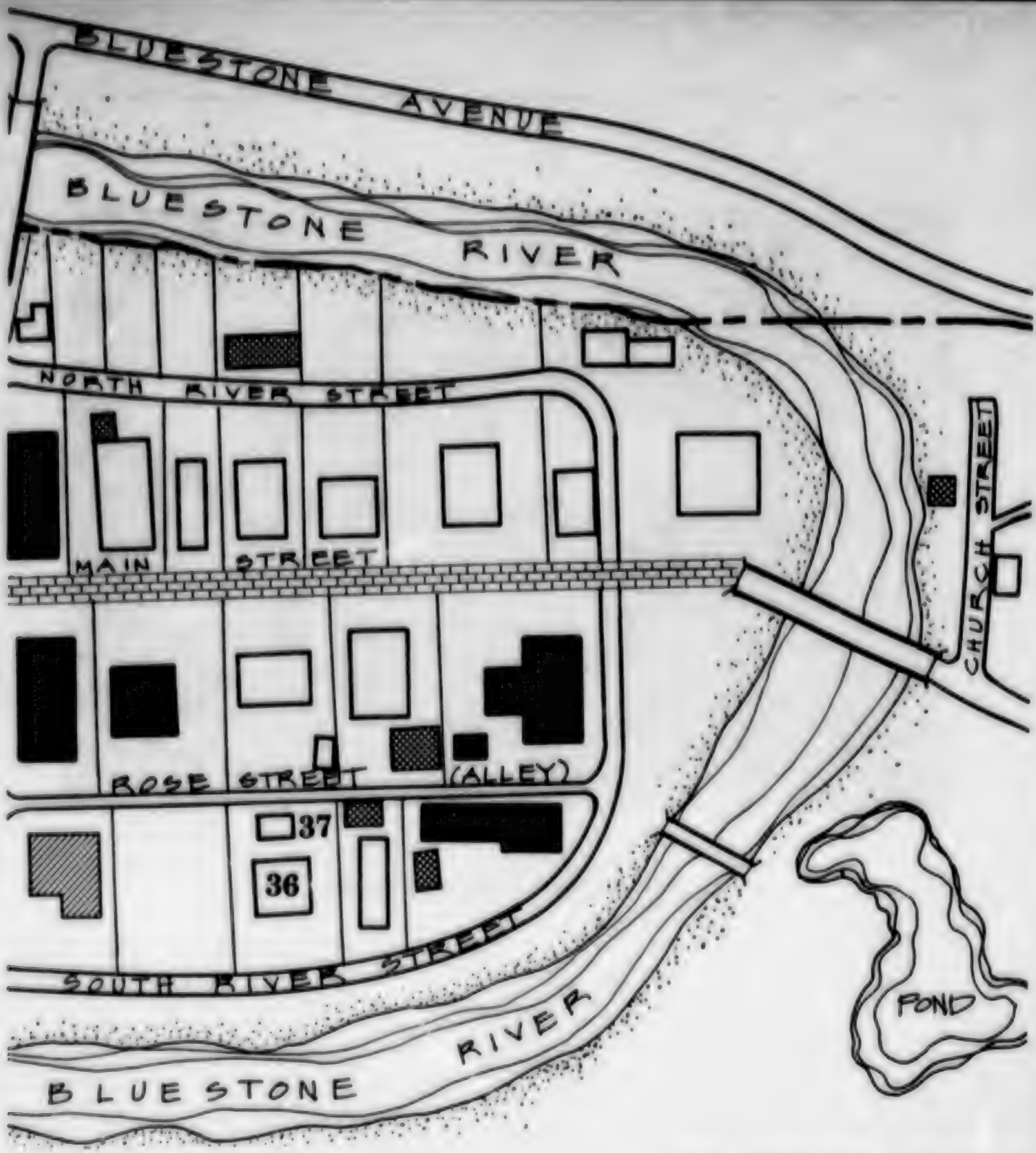

National Register Historic District
Collins House (NRD #36) & Garage (NRD #37)
Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC - NOV 91 - BRAM - 20,033
United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service

Site Number: 36 – Tax 131 (See also #37)

Site: Jairus Collins House **Built:** Style Built 1911 (Tax) 1909-10 (NRD)

Address: South River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Musick, Leon C., Box 172, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Jairus Collins (1859-1932) was born in Clayton, Alabama. His education was limited because of disruptions to the state's education system caused by the Civil War. He became a bookkeeper and auditor for coal firms in Alabama and followed his older brother, Justus, to West Virginia in 1893. Working first in Glen Jean, he moved in 1896 to Bramwell, where he was general manager of Louisville Coal and Coke Co. for his brother. He later opened mines on his own in McDowell (Cherokee) and Mercer (Piedmont) Counties. He was one of the organizers of the Pocahontas Operators' Association.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, New England gambrel and gable roof.
Integrity: Average/Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Slate. Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average.

Other: Porch appears to have been enclosed. Rear well may be addition, or relic of earlier house. Massive stone chimney appears unrelated to house.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Brick pillars with stone caps and wood rails – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fences
Lighting in ground in front

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average

Comments: Bases for brick pillars exist in front although the fence and pillars have been removed. Vegetation includes cedar, spruce, yew, rhododendron, rose, clematis, oriental holly and dogwood, (one dogwood being possibly historic in back).

Site 36: Jairus Collins House

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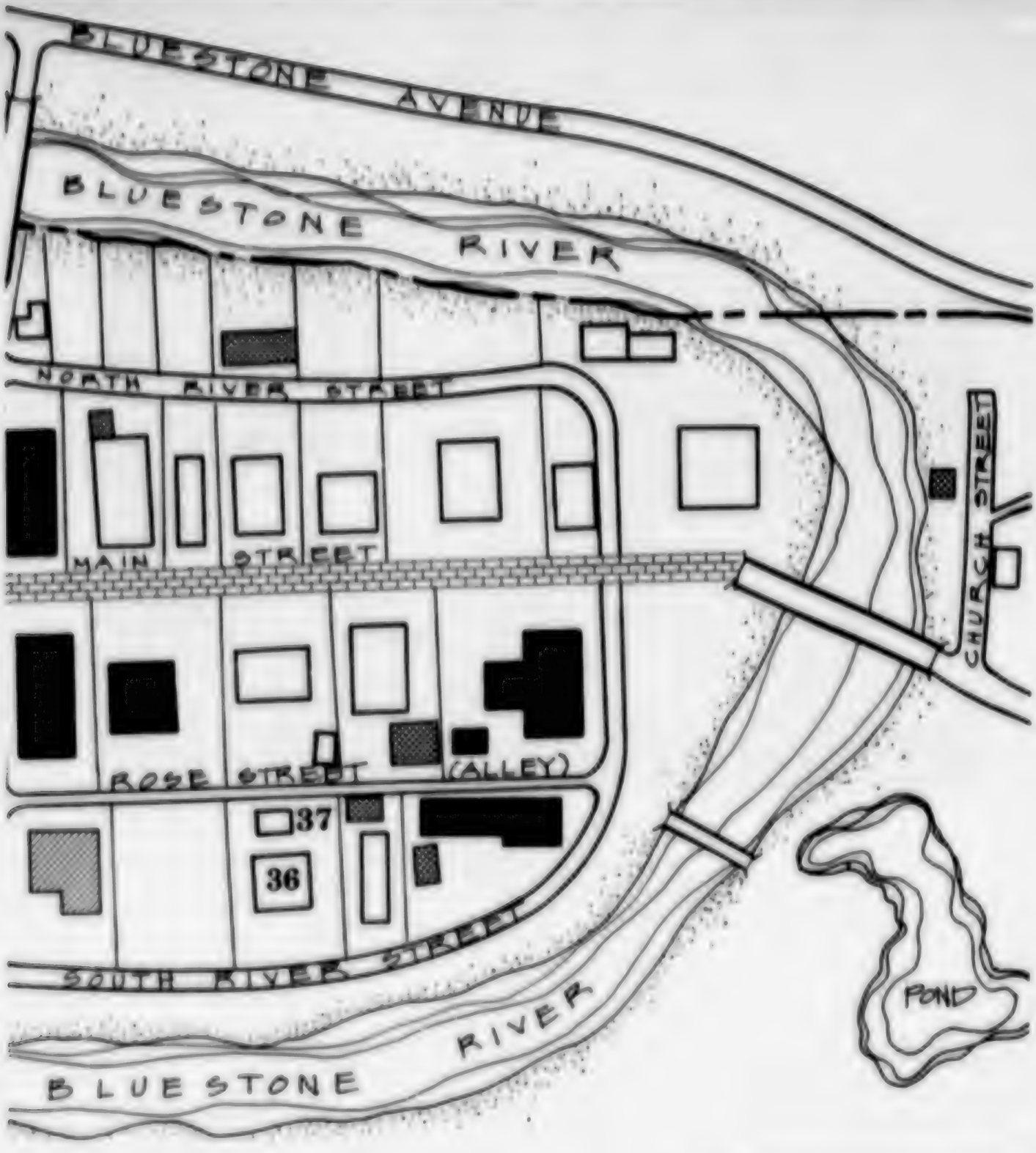

National Register Historic District
Collins House (NRD #36) & Garage (NRD #37)
Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,033
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 37 - Tax 131 (See also #36)

Site: Collins Garage/Quarters **Built:** Style Built 1909-10 (Tax) 1911 (NRD)

Address: South River Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Musick, Leon C., Box 172, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Brick masonry, cat slide roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Brick masonry - Average.
Roof: Slate - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Average. Double overhead garage doors - Good.
Other:

Site 37: Collins Garage/Quarters

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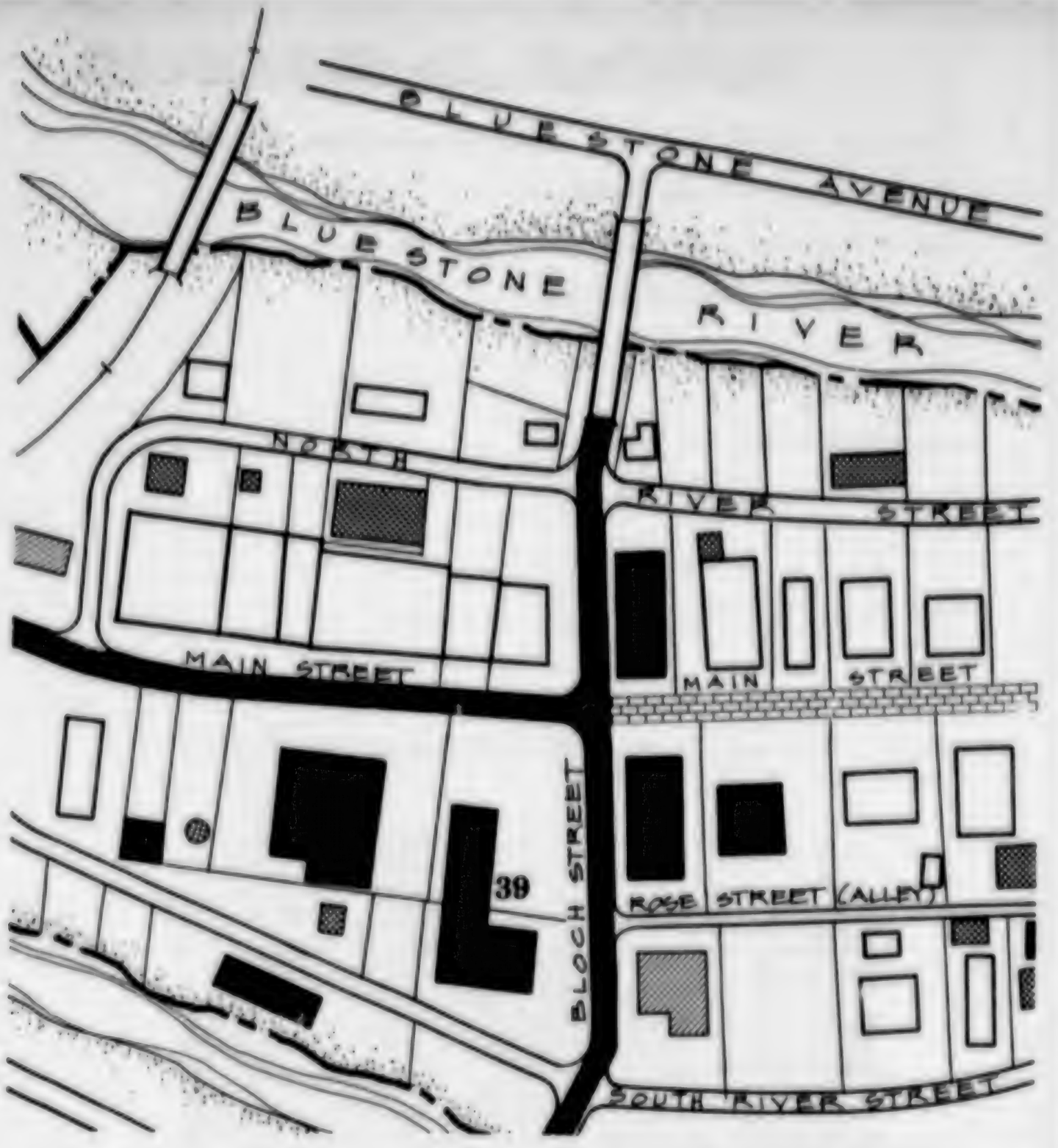

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

National Register Historic District

Bramwell Presbyterian Church (NRD #39)

Bramwell, West Virginia

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,034
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 39 – Tax 119

Site: Bramwell Presbyterian Church **Built:** 1902

Address: Bloch Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Baker, E.S., et. al., Treas., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Presbyterian services were conducted by missionary pastors to the Pocahontas-Flat Top Coalfield on a once-a-month schedule in the first years of its opening. The Bramwell church was organized in 1890. Among its first members were Elder John C. Pack (Buckeye Coal and Coke Co.), I.T. Mann (Bank of Bramwell, The Pocahontas Fuel Co., The Pocahontas Co., etc.), Philip Goodwill (The Pocahontas Co., The Goodwill Coal & Coke Co.), and S.M. Buck (Director, Bank of Bramwell). The church's first years were slow and marked by several changes of pastors until I.T. Mann built this church as a gift to the congregation in 1902-03. That and the purchase of a manse for the pastor stabilized the church and it is an active congregation today. Sometime after 1928, Edward Cooper, Jr. gave an Echo organ and chimes to the church as a memorial to his mother.

Access: By appointment outside hours of service.

Current Use: Church.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: VictorialGothic.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Good.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Fixed – Average.

Other: Sunday school wing added in 1933. Announcement board in front also added after construction.

Historic Landscape Condition: Good

Streets: Asphalt covered brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Spalding with patching – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Iron – Average.
Trees: Holly – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Railing into church
Church sign
Utility lines
Planter/pots

Current Landscape Maintenance: Good.

Comments: The original pattern of the church has good historic integrity. The addition was built later on the grounds of the Bluestone Inn and therefore is not part of the history being examined, although the landscape is harmonious with the original structure. The church sign added in the 1960s is in the same masonry style. Some original sidewalk fragments remain within the grounds. Vegetation includes: white pine (1) planted in the 1930s, holly (probably historic), dogwood (5), rhododendrons and azaleas. Small planter/pots in front do not appear historic.

Interpretive Program: Tours are available on Tuesday and Thursdays during the summer season or by appointment.

Site 38: Bramwell Presbyterian Church, front

Site 39: Bramwell Presbyterian Church, side

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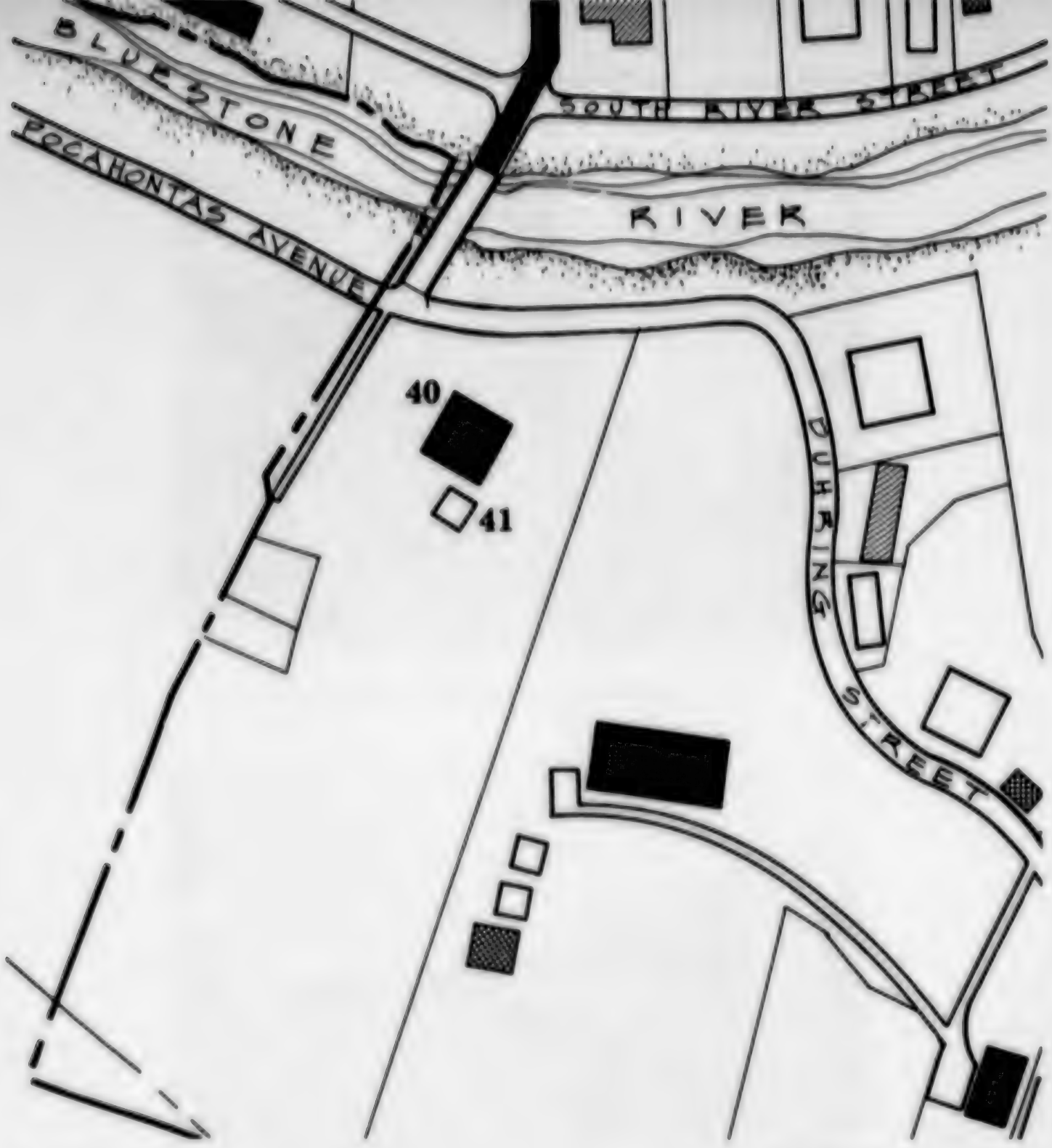

National Register Historic District

Goodwill House (NRD #40) & Garage (NRD #41)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,035
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 40 – Tax 007 (See also #41)

Site: Philip Goodwill House **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) 1894/1905 (NRD)

Address: Pocahontas Avenue, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Pasley, Edward and Nora Belle, 1010 N. Swallow Tail Drive, Port Orange, Fla. 32019

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Philip Goodwill, born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, was educated at Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and was the second son of Robert Goodwill, a Northumberland coal miner who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1852. Robert worked in mines as a miner and contractor until 1865 when he began to lease and develop coal lands, successfully selling at least three such properties before undertaking a lease in the very earliest days of the Pocahontas Field. Advanced in years, he turned the management of his interests (The Goodwill Coal and Coke Co.) over to his second son, Philip. Philip had worked with his father in the Pennsylvania mines and had also read law and been admitted to the bar in that state. He was cashier of the First National Bank of Shamokin, Pennsylvania. He moved to Bramwell after 1887, and became secretary of the Pocahontas Company, the coal operator's marketing firm. He was a very active Mason, a member of the Presbyterian Church and the Rock District Board of Education, in which capacity he was instrumental in establishing a graded public school for Bramwell.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Edwardian Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Asphalt and wood shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average.

Other: Originally a two-story frame building constructed in 1894, the house was significantly remodeled in 1904 with the addition of a third floor, a turret, front porch, bays and much interior detailing and decoration.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: None
Private Sidewalks: With some patching – Average.
Walls: Stone – Average.
Trees: Dogwood (1) – Average.
Shrubs: Bridle wreath, black haw, smoke tree – All average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Black top on drive
Utility lines
Chain link fence with #42

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Historical photos indicate more trees in front than presently exist but this is one of the few locations where historic shrubs are evident, many having been cut and resprouted from large stumps. Rock wall generally in average condition, though some sections are breaking apart. Other vegetation includes sugar maple (1) 40-50 years, hemlock, white pine (late 30s), spruce hedge (10+) screening GTE building, rhododendrons, azaleas, yew, quince, boxwood (planted in 50s but from historic plants in Bramwell), and a vegetable garden. Historic holly in back recently cut is resprouting but owners are applying herbicides to kill it.

Site 40: Phillip Goodwill House, front

Site 41: Phillip Goodwill House, rear

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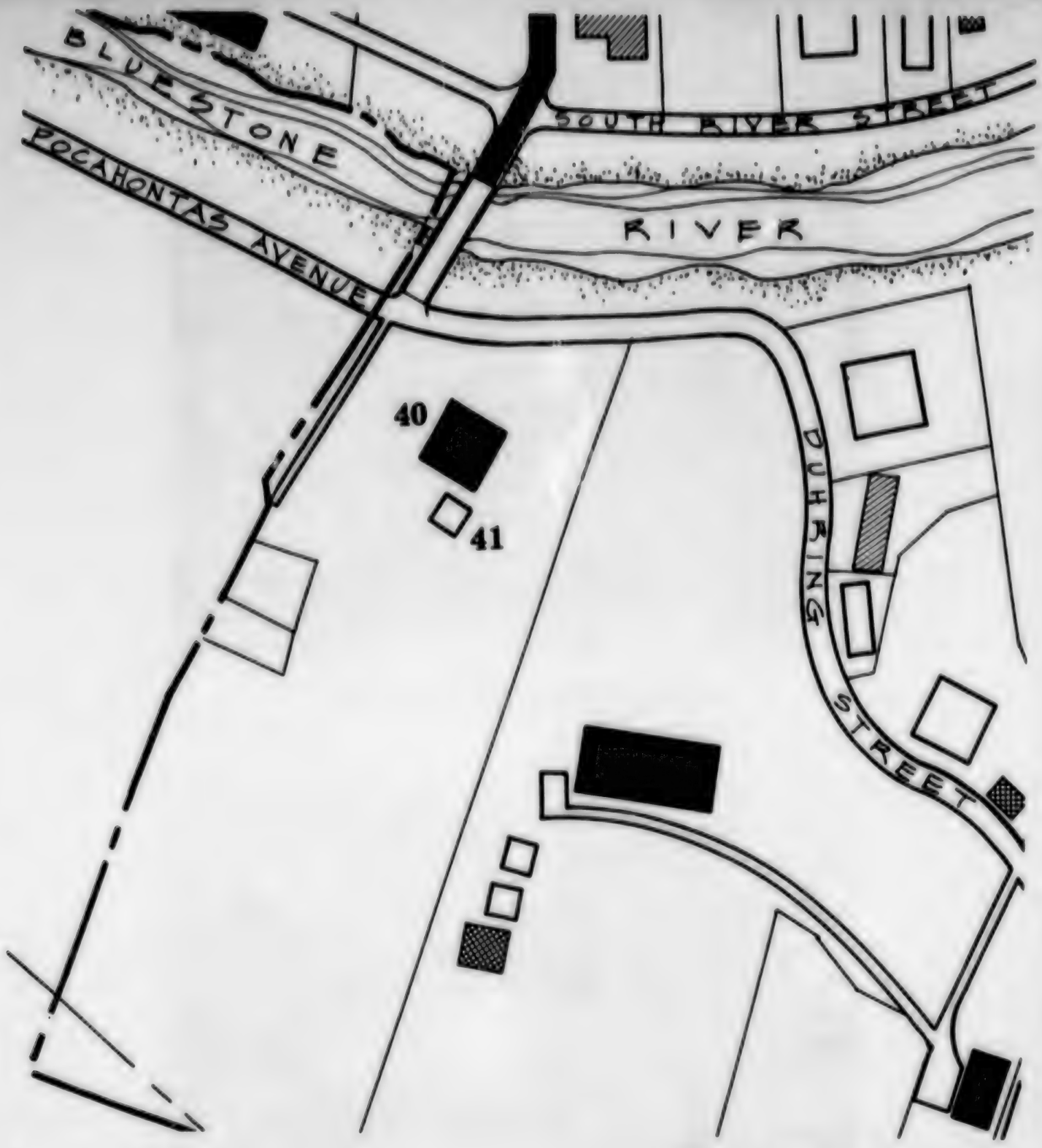

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National Register Historic District
Goodwill House (NRD #40) & Garage (NRD #41)
Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,035
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 41 – Tax 007 (See also #40)

Site: Goodwill Garage **Built:** Style Built 1890 (Tax) Ca. 1895

Address: Pocahontas Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Pasley, Edward and Nora Belle, 1010 N. Swallow Tail Drive, Port Orange, Fla. 32019

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Goodwill House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage/Storage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable and shed roofs.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Masonry – Poor (failing on east side).
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Poor.
Other: Carport added to north side for additional automobile storage. Lean-to on east side.

Site 41: Goodwill Garage

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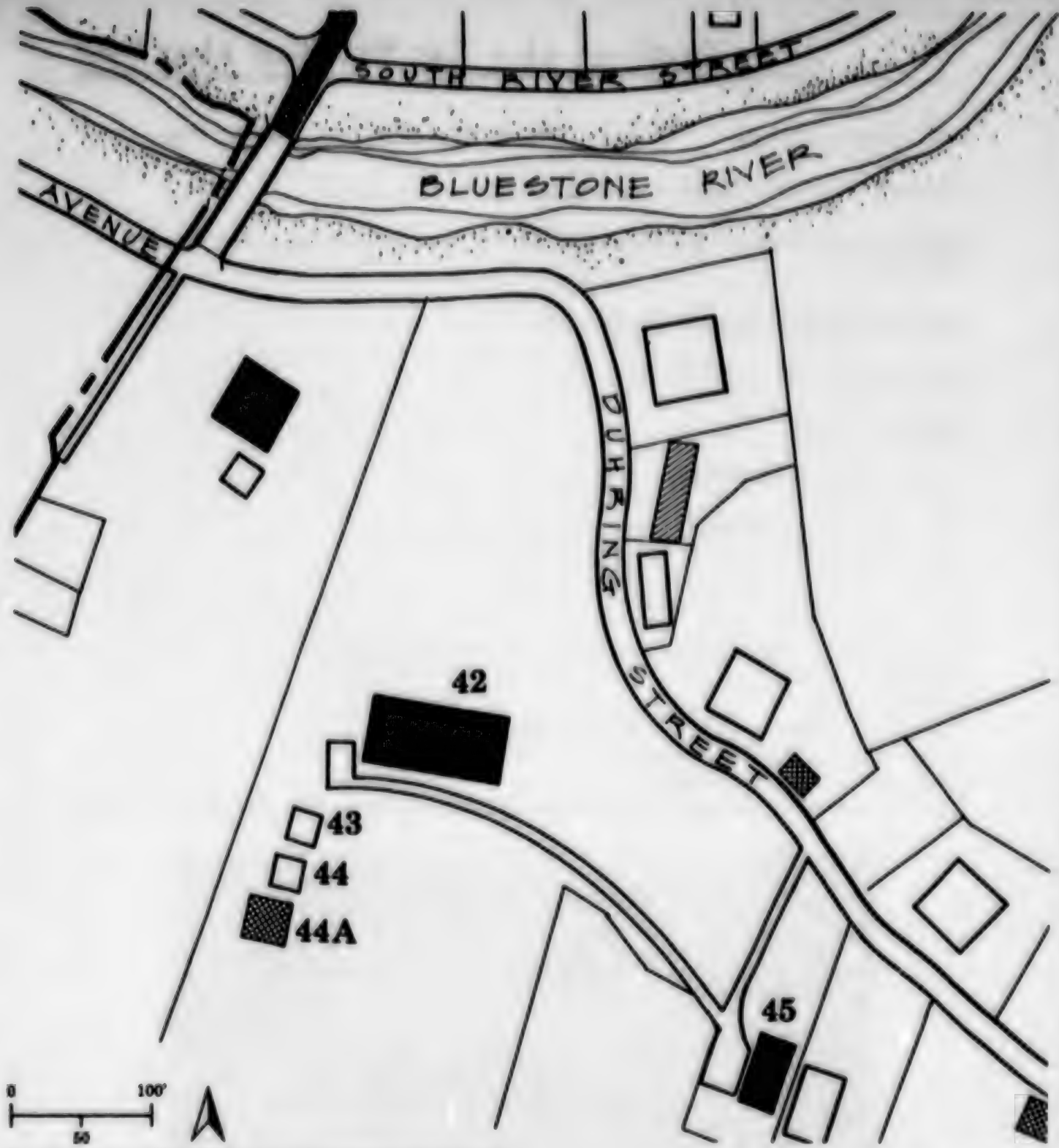

National Register Historic District

Thomas House (NRD #42), Servants Quarters (NRD #43), Shed (NRD #44 & 44A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #45)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,036
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

156

Site Number: 42 – Tax 008
(See also #43, #44, & #45)

Site: W.H. Thomas House **Built:** Style Built 1909 (Tax) 1909-1912 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Shahan, Michael E. and Jacqueline E., Box 127, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: W.H. Thomas (1862-1918) was born in Wales and emigrated with his parents to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania when he was six. He was educated in the public schools there. He was a newsboy and clerk of the Wilkes-Barre Court until 1884, when he went to Pocahontas, Virginia as a mine supply clerk for the Southwest Virginia Improvement Co. While there, he met and married Annie Cooper, daughter of John Cooper (Mill Creek Coal and Coke Co.). In 1889, he became manager of the Cooper store in Cooper. In 1890, he formed the Algoma Coal and Coke Co. in partnership with Salem, Virginia banker John Chalmers. By 1906, the firm had a monthly capacity of 15,000 tons of coal and 15,000 tons of coke from its 175 ovens. It leased coal lands of 1800 acres. Selling Algoma sometime after 1906, he moved to Columbus, Ohio for a time. The family returned to West Virginia, and Thomas re-engaged in coal mining operations, forming the Crystal Coal and Coke Company, the Flat Top Coal Mining Co., Iroquois Coal Mining Co., Thomas Coal and Coke Co., and the McDowell Coal and Coke Co. He had interests in the Eclipse Milling Co., was chairman of the Board of Directors of the Flat Top Fuel Co., a director of the Bank of Bramwell, vice president of the Pocahontas Coal Operator's Association and a board member for the Smokeless Operator's Association of West Virginia. Thomas was also a very active Mason and a deacon of the Presbyterian Church, as well as president of the Bramwell School Board.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Owners are aware and proud of their home's historic value. They are restoring it slowly, with care for authenticity and with professional assistance.

Physical Data:

Style: Tudor Revival.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, half timber, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Good.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Tile and metal standing seam – Good.
Windows: Casement and double hung – Average.
Other:

157

Historic Landscape Condition: Good.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Appears original – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Power lines
Blacktop to garage

Current Landscape Maintenance: Good.

Comments: Located on a steep hill, the grounds of the Thomas House were shaped and planted while the house was being constructed. Design features include extensive stone walls, a green house (recently torn down), pond, terraces, extensive stone walkways and a wide diversity of landscape species, only a few of which have been identified in this study. Light standards have been recently restored.

The grounds are extensive and merge with the woods above the house. Of note are the massive oaks on the property which include: *Quercus coccinea* – scarlet oak, *Quercus alba* – white oak, *Pinus strobus* – white pine, and *Acer saccharinum* – silver maple. At the present entry to the house are a stand of arbor vitae (9) (*Thuja sps*), apparently planted when the house was built. Other significant vegetation includes extensive boxwood hedges (*Buxus sps*), panicle hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata*), and lilac "trees" (*Syringa sps*). Other trees include apple, spruce, dogwood, weeping cherry and holly. Shrubs include yew, rose of sharon, viburnum, juniper, ivy and wisteria. Additional research may be warranted to determine if the grounds are of national historic significance.

Site 42: W.H. Thomas House, rear

158 BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Site 42: W.H. Thomas House, entrance

Site 42: W.H. Thomas House, front

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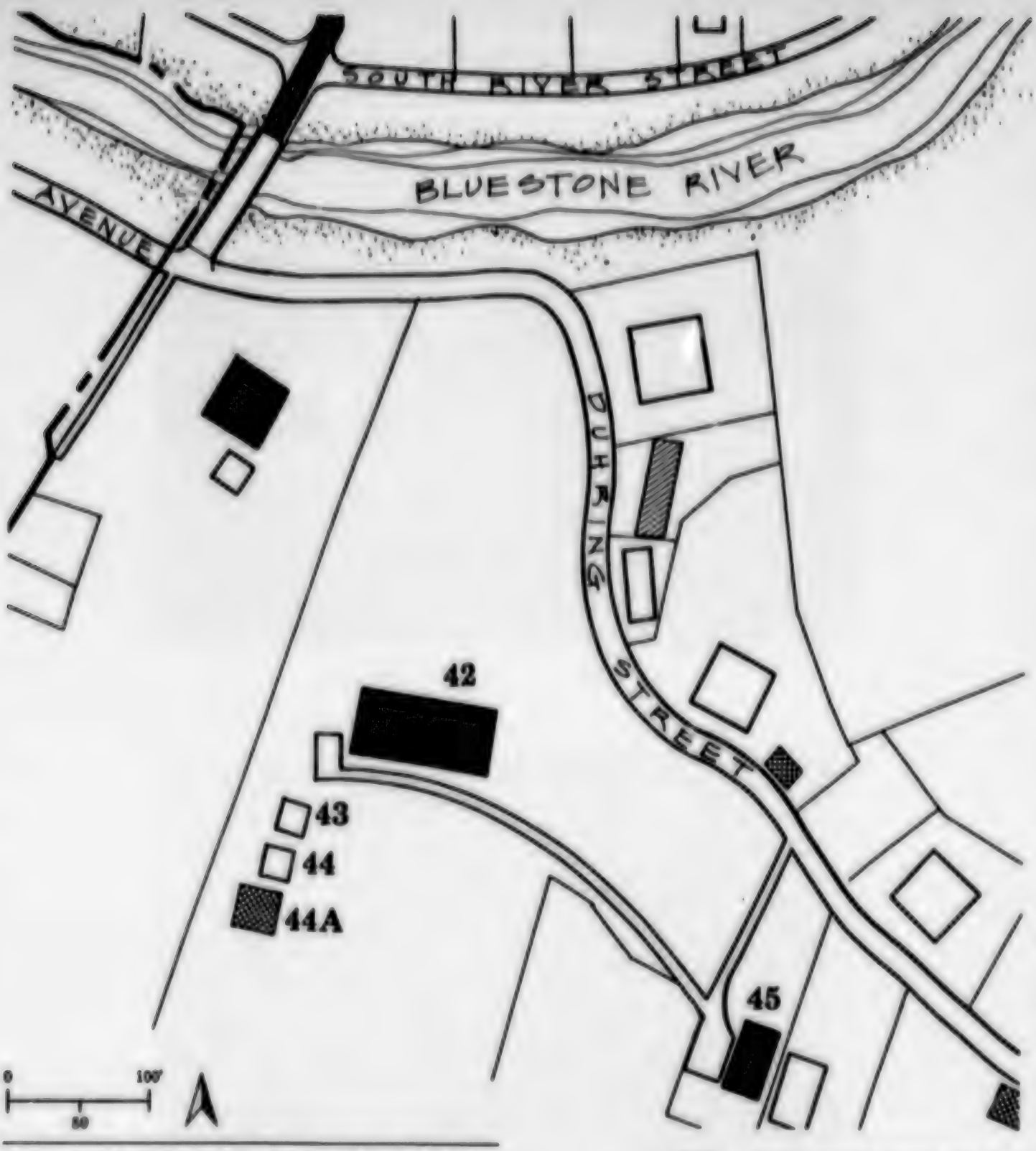

National Register Historic District

Thomas House (NRD #42), Servants Quarters (NRD #43), Shed (NRD #44 & 44A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #45)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,036
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

KO

Site Number: 43 – Tax 008
(See also #42, #44, & #45)

Site: Thomas Carriage House (Quarters)

Built: Style Built 1909 (Tax) 1909/1912 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Shahan, Michael E. and Jacqueline E., Box 127, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Thomas House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: See Site 43. Foundation and roof of this building have been repaired recently.

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, clipped gable.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Poor/Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Good.
Roof: Pressed tin – Good.
Windows: Double hung – Average/Poor.
Other: Siding and porch in disrepair, needs paint.

Site 43:
Thomas Carriage
House/Quarters

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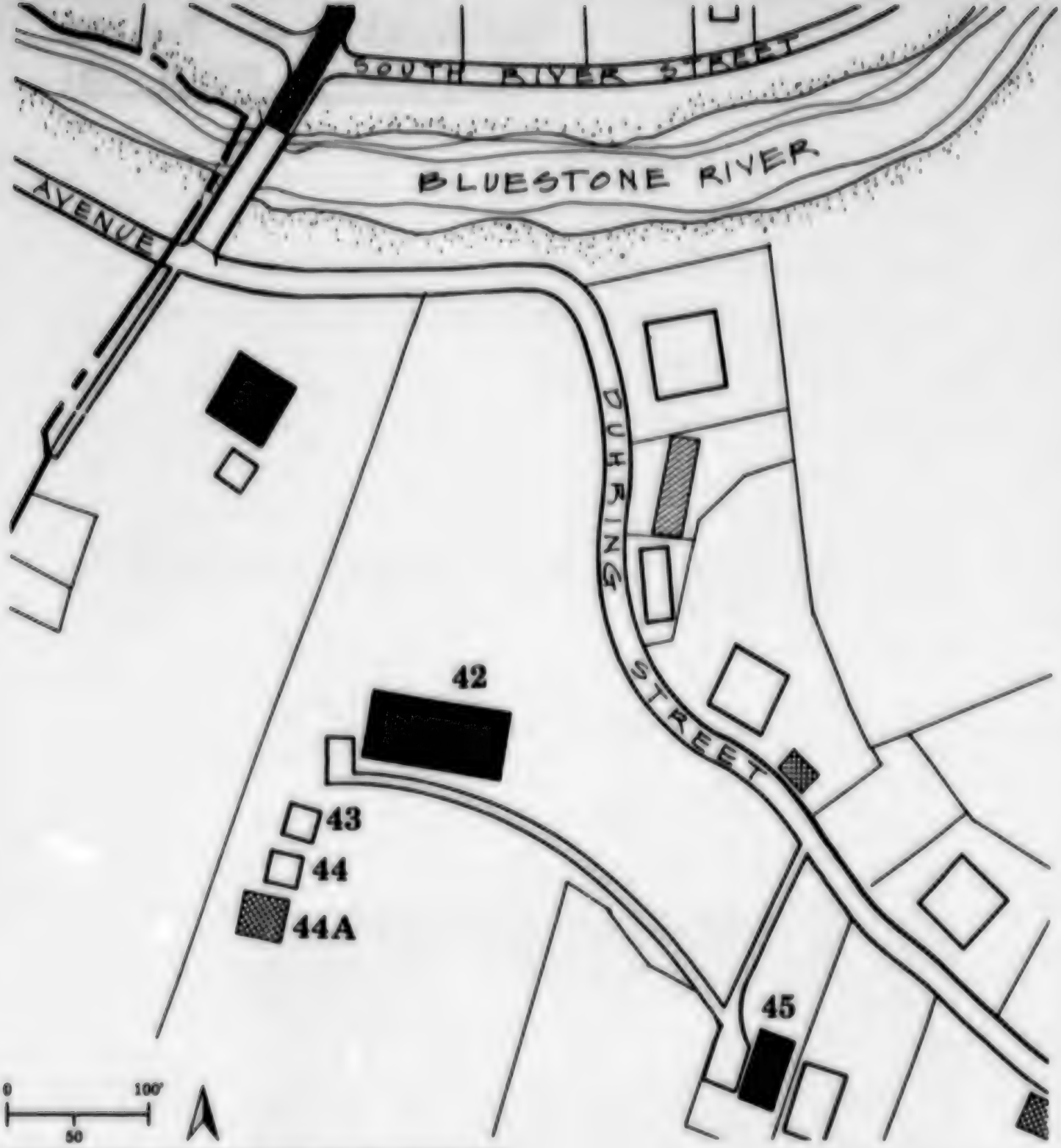

National Register Historic District

Thomas House (NRD #42), Servants Quarters (NRD #43), Shed (NRD #44 & 44A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #45)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,036
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 44 (Includes #44A) - Tax 008
(See also #42, #43, & #45)

Site: Thomas Chicken House/Stable **Built:** Style Built 1909 (Tax) 1909/1912 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Shahan, Michael E. and Jacqueline E., Box 127, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Thomas House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Owners are working diligently and with professional services to restore and rehabilitate their property. The chicken house roof and foundation have been repaired recently.

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, clipped gable.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Poor/Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Good.
Roof: Pressed tin - Good.
Windows: Double hung - Average/Poor.

Other: This entry includes a separate stable. Condition data for the stable is the same as for the chicken house, except for its roof, which is poor. The stable is 44A on the district map. Both buildings appear to have been modified so that neither now reflects their original use.

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Site 44: Thomas Chicken House

Site 44A: Thomas Stable

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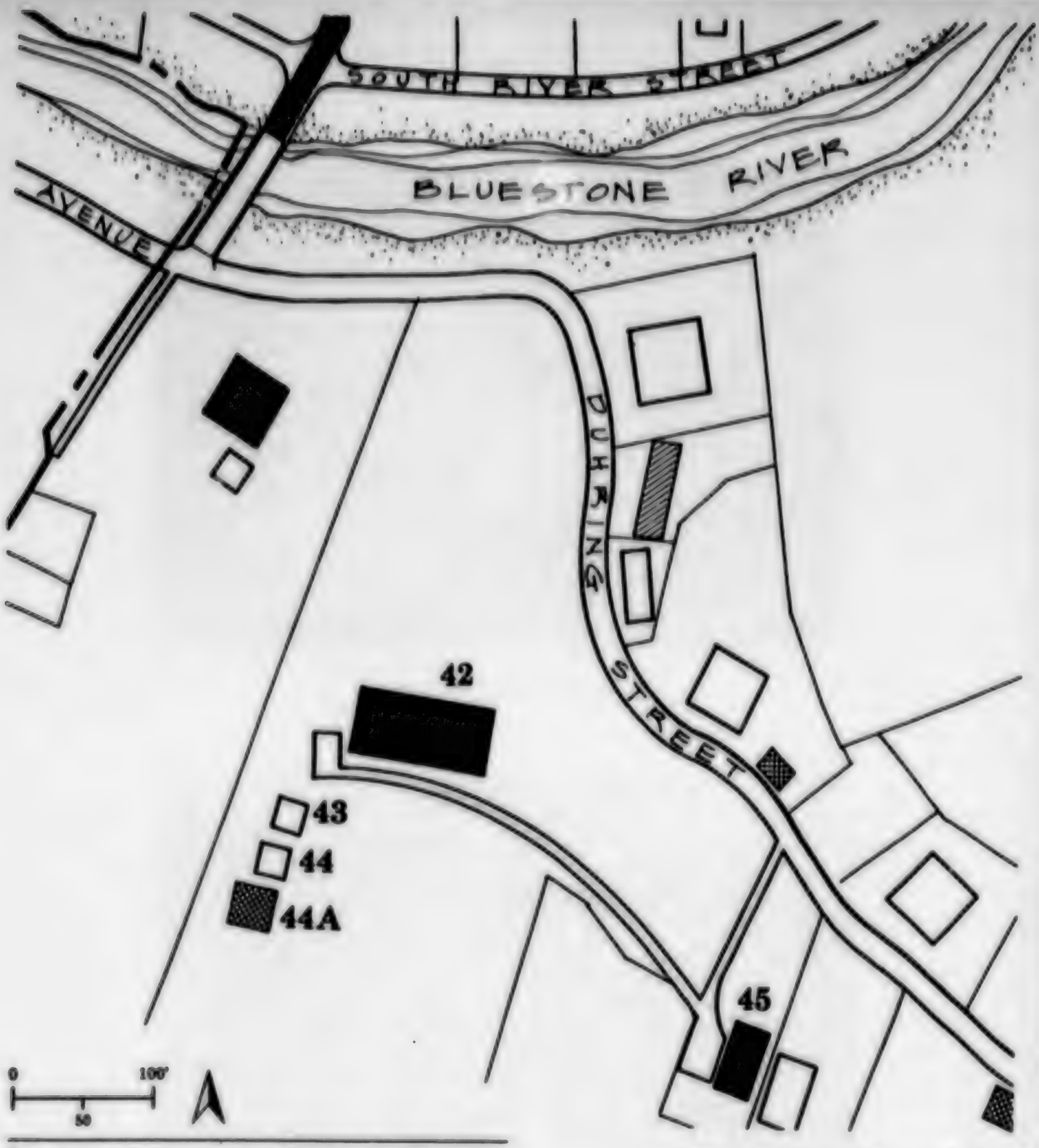

National Register Historic District

Thomas House (NRD #42), Servants Quarters (NRD #43), Shed (NRD #44 & 44A), & Garage Apartment (NRD #45)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 45 – Tax 009
(See also #42, #43, & #44)

Site: Thomas Garage/Quarters **Built:** Style Built 190 (Tax) 1909/1912 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Shahan, Michael E. and Jacqueline E., Box 127, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: See Thomas House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Garage/Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: See Site 44.

Physical Data:

Style: Tudor Revival.
Material/Construction Type: Stone masonry, half timber, gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Tile – Average.
Windows: Casement and double hung – Average.
Other:

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Site 45: Thomas Garage/Quarters, front

Site 45: Thomas Garage/Quarters, rear

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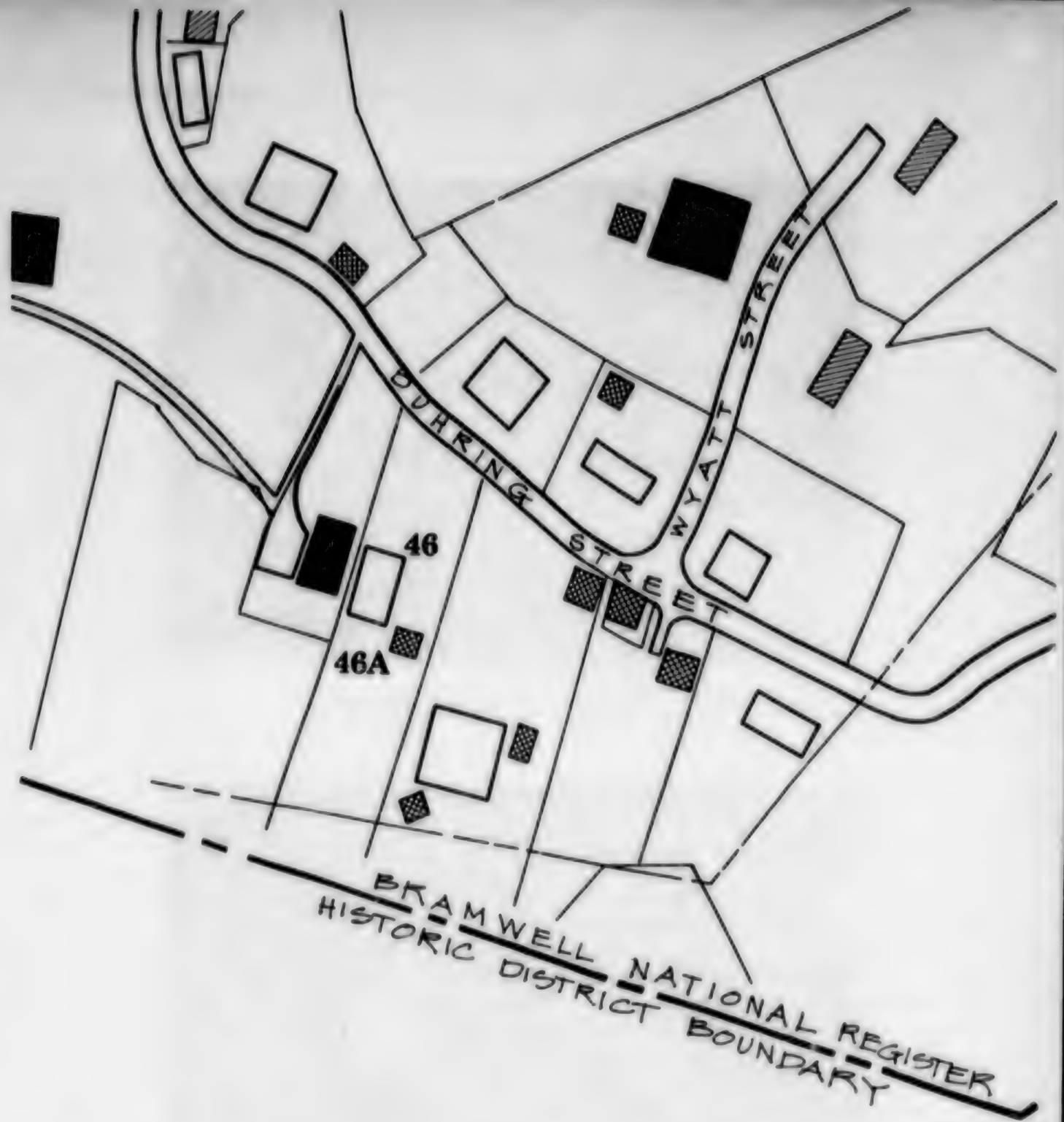

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National Register Historic District

Pilgrim Holiness/Wesleyan Church Parsonnage (NRD #46 & 46A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,037
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 46 (Includes #46A) – Tax 10

Site: Pilgrim Holiness/Wesleyan Church Parsonage **Built:** Ca. 1900

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Laurence, K. G., et. al., Treas., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry with cement block infill and under porch – Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl. Recent garage (46A).

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Asphalt Overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Appears original – Average.
Walls: Stone – Average.
Trees: Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Powerlines
Blacktop to garage

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Back of property merges with woods. Historic oak in front of the structure on the boundary with the Thomas Garage frames the entire structure.

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Site 46: Pilgrim Holiness/Wesleyan Church Parsonage

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0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Godfrey/Jones House
(NRD #47, 47A, 47B, & 47C)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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Site Number: 47 (Includes #47A, #47B, & #47C)
Tax 011

Site: Godfrey/Jones House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1900 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Gay, Paul L. and Shirley P., Box 296, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: A.I. Godfrey was the ninth mayor of Bramwell, serving eight consecutive terms (from 1898 until 1905), and a trustee of the Bramwell Methodist Church, serving on its financial committee in 1906. He was a key figure in the establishment of Bramwell's first public graded school in 1894. Godfrey was a Bramwell merchant, and a minor stockholder in some coal operations. Joseph S. Jones was Bramwell's Presbyterian minister from 1939-1950. Why he lived in this house instead of the church manse is unknown.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone – Unknown condition.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.

Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl. Recent wing with large fireplace chimney added on west side. Two sheds and a recent garage are 47A, B and C, respectively.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average
Trees: Oak (4) – Average. Sugar maple – Poor-Average.
Other: Stone lined ditch – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility pole
Sidewalk lighting
Treated contemporary fence posts. Iron railing to structure.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average

Comments: Back of property merges with woods. One spruce in back is possibly historic. Original post and wire fence removed and replaced with post and rail.

Site 47: Godfrey/Jones House

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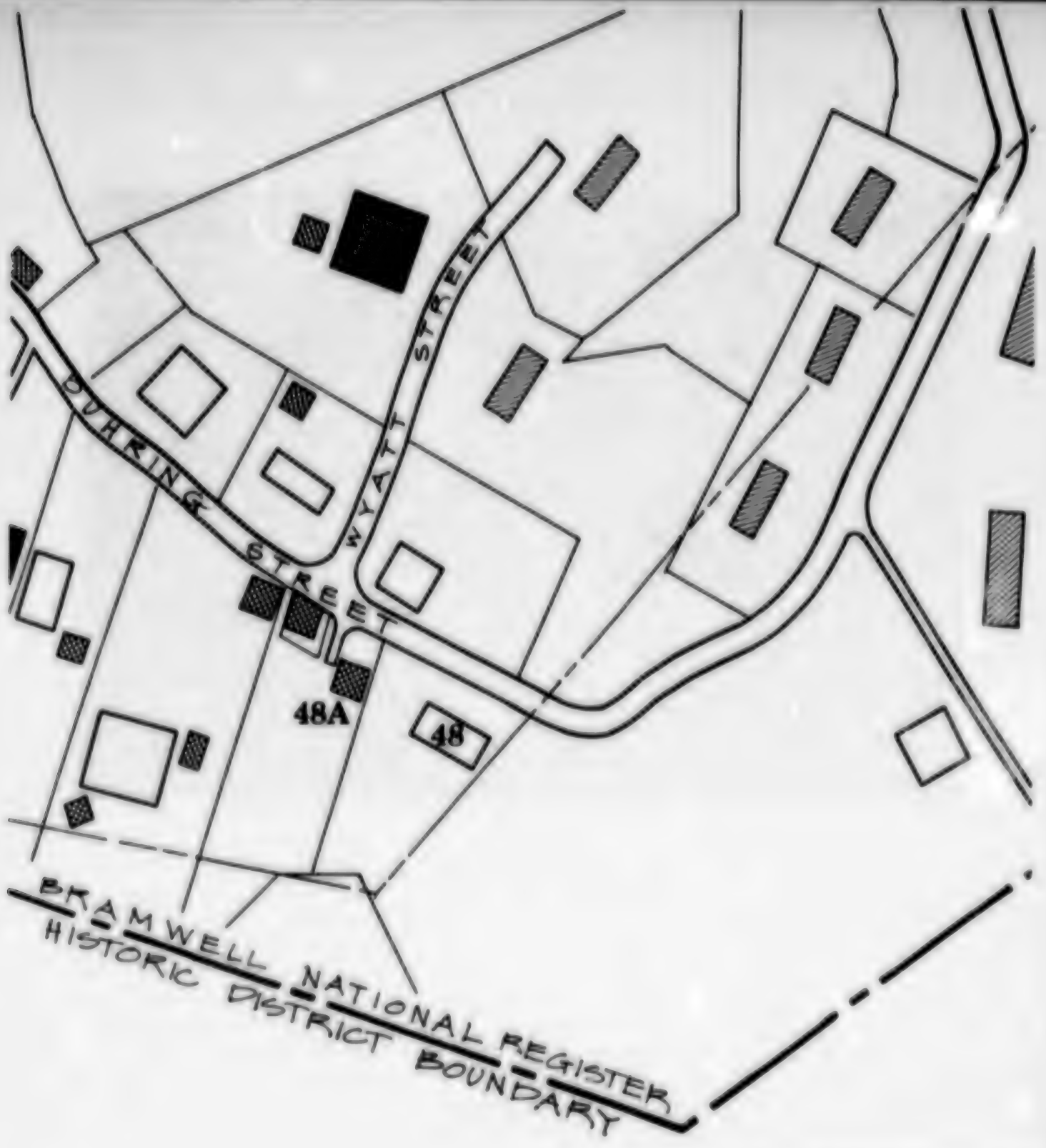

0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #48 & 48A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,039
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 48 (Includes #48A) - Tax 13

Site: House **Built:** Style Built 1925 (Tax) Ca. 1900

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Allen, Rebecca D., Box 123, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private

Current Use: Dwelling

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof with flared eaves.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed - Average.

Other: This house is believed to have been moved from its original location in front of the Thomas house, probably in 1909. Resided with aluminum-vinyl. Recent garage (48A).

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Stone paving - Average.
Walls: Stone - Good.
Trees: Sugar maple - Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility pole
Planter tubs
Dog kennel
Entry light post

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Property merges with woods. Probably historic maple severely pruned for power lines. Other vegetation includes dogwood (possibly historic), white pine, arch, rhododendrons and hemlock hedges.

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Site 48: House

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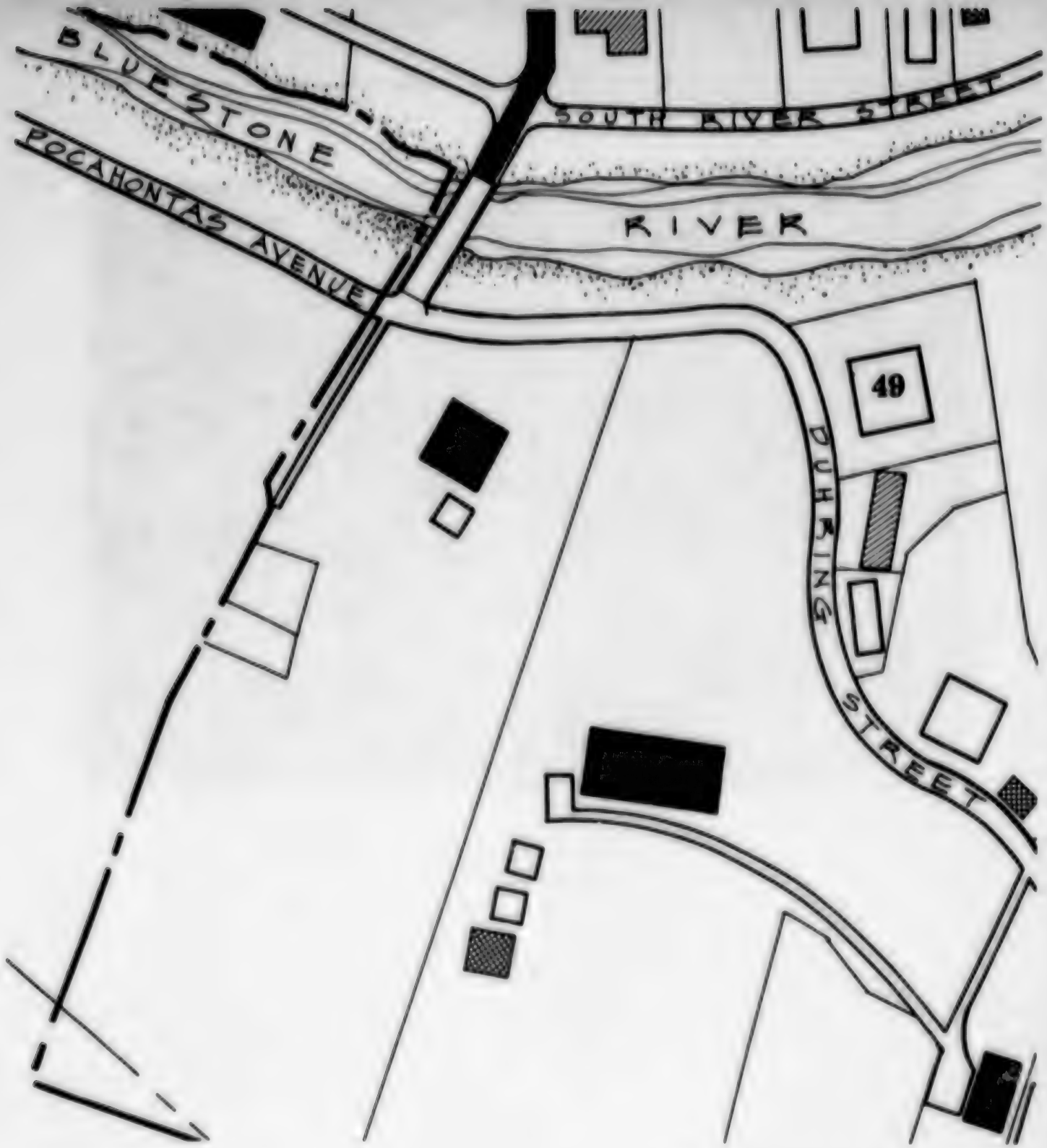

0 50 100'

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Schoew House (NRD #49)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,040
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

182

Site Number: 49 – Tax 15

Site: F.L. Schoew House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1895

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Davis, Virginia P., Box 188, Princeton, W. Va. 24705

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Schoew was a founder of the Bank of Bramwell and a director until 1922.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition:
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Asphalt tile – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average.
Other:

Historic Landscape Condition: Good.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Walls: Stone (Mann Playhouse) – Good.
Fences: Average.
Trees: Sugar maple (2) – Poor. Sugar maple (3) – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Utility lines in front
Concrete block garage
Blacktop driveway

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Maples (2) on side of house have been severely pruned for utility lines. Other vegetation includes dogwood, walnut (2) on river bank – one identified historic tree in front, rhododendrons and juniper.

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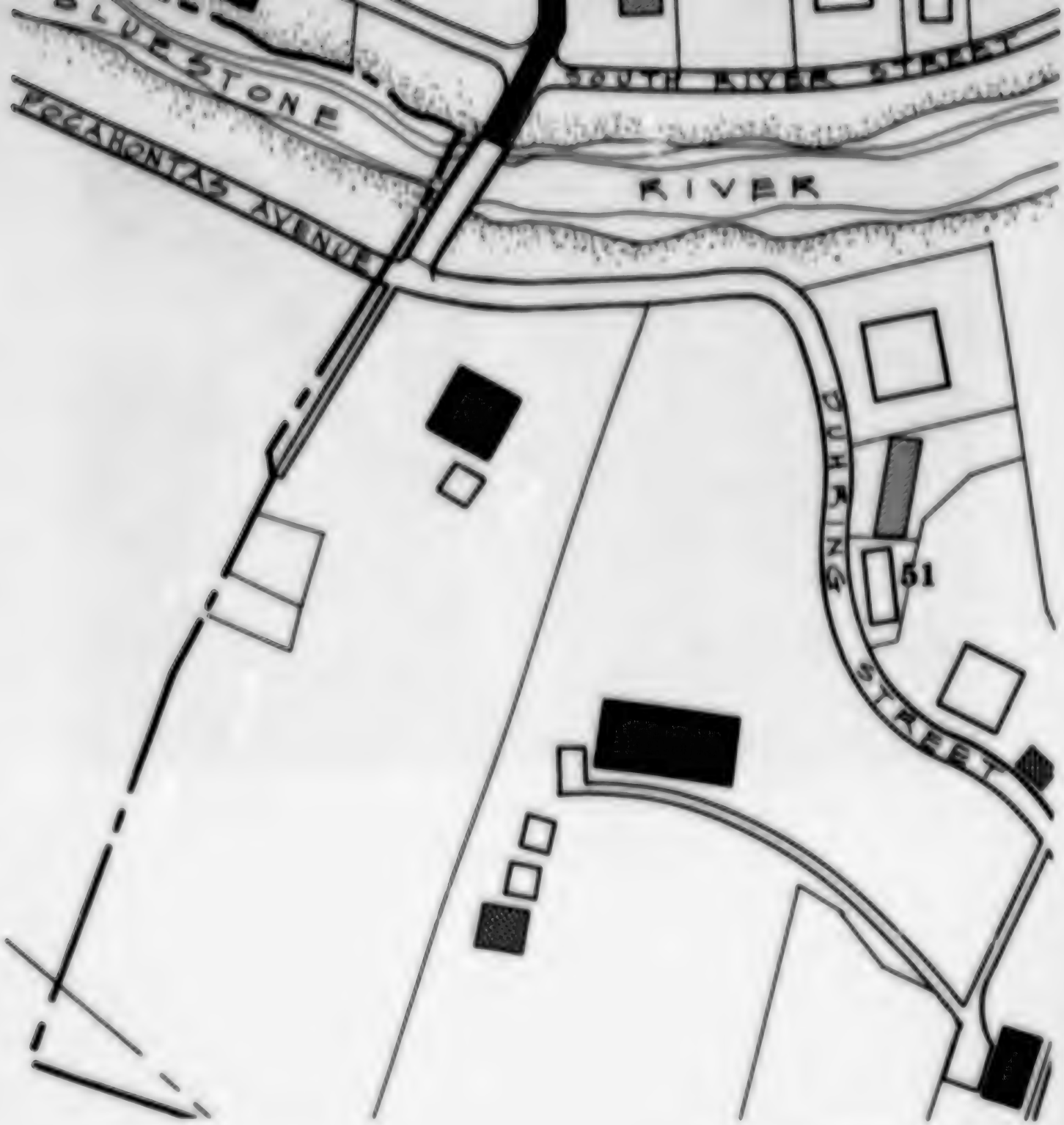

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Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #51)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,041
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 51 - Tax 17

Site: House **Built:** Style Built 1925 (Tax) Pre-1930 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Eller, Robert M. and Kelly, Box 221, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gambrel and gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average/Poor.
Foundation: Parged over with stucco - Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Average.
Other: Metal porch supports and railings.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Walls: Stone wall from Mann Playhouse - Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Sidewalk
Iron railing to porch
Concrete pad in front
Lattice fence
Concrete block retaining wall

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Wood lattice fence built within last 10 years. Vegetation includes lilac, hemlock shrubs (3), and holly (possibly historic).

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Site 51: House

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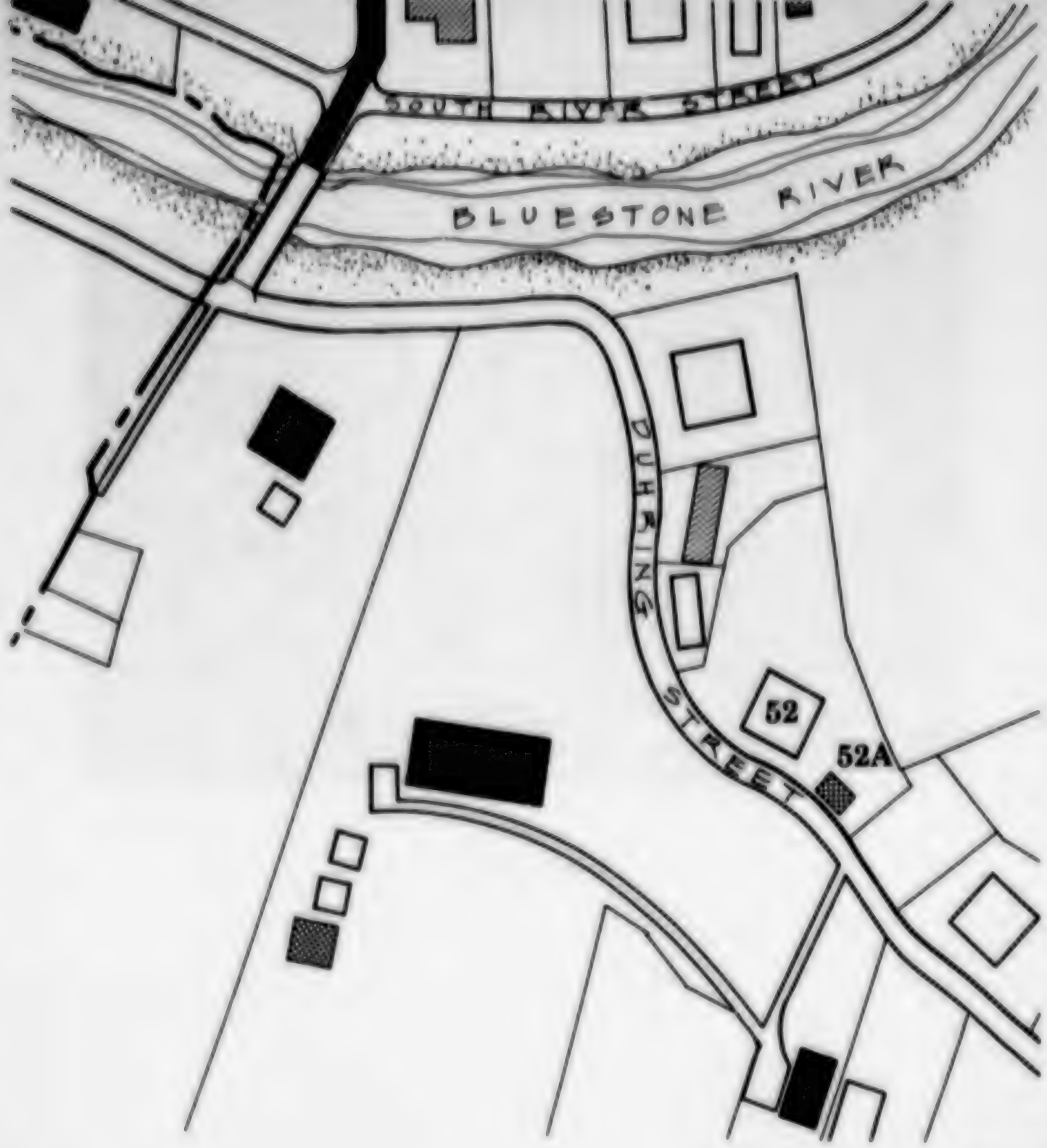

0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Baker House (NRD #52 & 52A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC · NOV 91 · BRAM · 20,042
United States Department of the Interior · National Park Service

Site Number: 52 (Includes #52A) – Tax 18

Site: Edward S. Baker House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1895 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Reed, Larry and Theresa, Box 114, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Edward S. Baker (1868-1958) was born in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Baker came to Bramwell in 1900 as assistant cashier to cashier I.T. Mann for the Bank of Bramwell. In 1933, when the bank closed, he was employed by the First National Bank of Bluefield, a bank founded by another member of the Mann family, Edwin. He served in the state legislature of West Virginia from 1904 to 1910, and represented Rock District on the Mercer County Board of Education for 25 years.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, hipped roof with dormers.
Integrity: Average/Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation:
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Average.
Other: Garage (52A). Porch railing filled in.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Walls: Stone wall from Mann Playhouse – Average.
Trees: Holly – Poor. Silver maple – Average. Arbor vitae – Average.
Other: Mann Playhouse entry gate – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Plastic swimming pool
Storage shed
Concrete block retaining walls

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comment : The gate for the Mann Playhouse is in serious disrepair. Other vegetation includes dogwood.

Site 52: Edward S. Baker House

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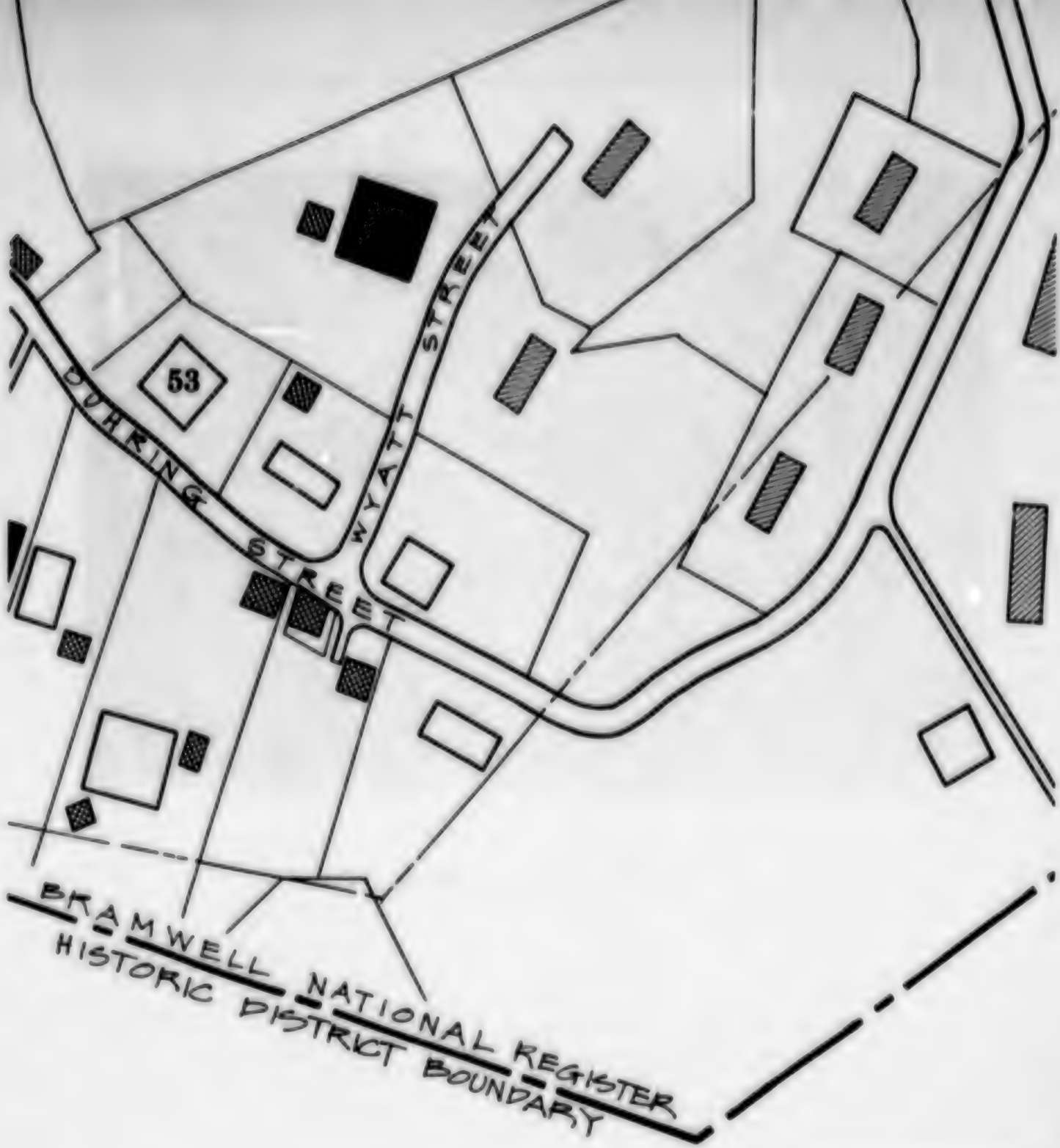

0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Morton House (NRD #53)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,043
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 53 – Tax 20/21

Site: H. X. Morton House **Built:** Style Built 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1900 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Kohle, Betty Jo M., Box 84, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: In the teens, Morton moved to Bluefield to open a motor car dealership.

Access: Private

Current Use: Vacant

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Foursquare.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, hipped roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Unknown condition.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.
Other: Small single story wing added at rear in 1985.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Trees: Oaks (3) – Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Asphalt paved drive

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Original entry changed from the front to the side of the house. Other vegetation includes hemlock (hedge), hydrangea, holly and forsythia.

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Site 53: H.X. Morton House

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0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Frank Hewitt House

(NRD #54, 54A, & 54B)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 01 • BRAM • 80,044
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Site Number: 54 (Includes #54A & #54B)
Tax 22

Site: Frank Hewitt House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1900 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Vincent, Margaret A., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Frank Hewitt was the eldest son of John D. Hewitt, Sr. of the Buckeye Coal and Coke Co. His mother built the house at the corner of Main and River Streets. He married into the Shields family. Harry Shields was vice president of the Norfolk and Western Railroad.

Access: Private

Current Use: Dwelling

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, clipped gable.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Perma-stone - Unknown condition.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Poor.
Windows: Double hung - Fair.

Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl. Porch columns sided over. A two-story ell in rear appears to have been added. Shed (54A) in back has stone foundation and is in poor condition. Root cellar in hillside in rear. Recent garage (54B).

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Walls: Stone - Average.
Trees: Walnut - Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Light post

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Massive walnut in upper corner on Wyatt Street. Other vegetation includes yew (possibly historic), hemlock and rhododendron.

Site 54: Frank Hewitt House

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0 50 100'

National Register Historic District
Buck/Bowen House
(NRD #55 & 55A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,045
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-regist[illegible] (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers [illegible] to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 55 (Includes #55A) - Tax 23

Site: Buck/Bowen House **Built:** Style Built 1910 (Tax) Ca. 1900 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Easterling, William L. and Wilhelmina, Box 175, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Stewart M. Buck was a mining engineer and in 1896, a director of the Bank of Bramwell. William Henry Bowen (1919-1976) was a great grandson of Jonathan Bowen (1830-1902), who was born in Wales, and emigrated to the United States as a baby. Living in St. Clair, Schuyhill County, Pennsylvania, Jonathan Bowen started work as a slate picker, working up to being a mine superintendent and district superintendent. He moved to Bramwell in 1885 and secured one of the first leases in the Pocahontas field, in partnership with James Booth. His son, W. Harry Bowen (1860-1942), was a native of Ashland, Pennsylvania, where he attended school and worked in mines superintended by his father. Harry joined his father as secretary of Booth-Bowen Coal and Coke Co. in 1893, becoming president when his father died. He was a stockholder in and chairman of the board of directors of the Pocahontas Fuel Co. and had other financial interests as well. He lived in Freeman. Booth-Bowen Coal and Coke Co. had a 1,000 acre lease from the Flat Top Coal Land Association. Its mines had a capacity of 25,000 to 30,000 tons of coal per month in 1896, and had 174 coke ovens with a capacity of 4,000 tons of coke per month. That year, it employed 350 men. The company mines were exhausted in 1938. More than nine million tons of coal had been produced. Joseph Bowen was Harry's third child, born in St. Clair, Pennsylvania in 1887. He attended the University of Virginia, graduating in 1910. He entered the family coal business, serving as Chairman of the Board of Booth-Bowen, and also as chairman of the board of the Pocahontas Fuel Co. until 1951. William Henry Bowen, a brother, lived in this house during the 1950s.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Edwardian Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable and hipped roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor (critical).
Foundation: Stone masonry - Poor.
Roof: Pressed tin, shingle pattern - Average/Poor.
Windows: Double hung - Poor.

Other: Small addition on side and possible two story addition on south side. Much remodeled in 1950s. A quarters is near the house, constructed in the same style and perhaps at the same time (55A).

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Public Sidewalks: Various pours - Poor.
Private Sidewalks: Poor.
Trees: Silver maple (3) - Poor. Spruce - Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Astroturf to porch
Concrete planters in front
Split rail fence
Pool and deck

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: The landscape is completely overgrown and has not been maintained in years. Originally this house overlooked most of Bramwell; no view exists now. The silver maple in front was damaged in Hurricane Hugo and a large portion of the tree fell on the house. The only gingko tree (Gingko bilboa) is found here (possibly historic). There is a wide variety of trees and shrubs which include norwegian spruce, sugar maple, dogwood, forsythia, yew, hemlock, firethorn, cedar, juniper, privet and boxwood.

Site 55: Buck/Bowen House, front

Site 55: Buck/Bowen House, side

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National Register Historic District

Marn Playhouse (NRD #56 & 56A), Garage (NRD #57), & Pedestrian Bridge (NRD #77)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,046
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 56 (Includes #56A) – Tax 19
(See also #57 & #77)

Site: Mann Playhouse **Built:** 1920 (Tax) Ca. 1910 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Kavanagh, Francis M. and Anita, Box 186, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: This structure and its surrounding gardens were built as a play area for the children of I.T. Mann and their governess. The area was accessed from the Mann house by a foot bridge across the Bluestone River. During the 1950s, the gardens were embellished, with rhododendron especially, by Mr. and Mrs. Everette L. Keesling, as a hobby. Keesling operated a chain of theaters in West Virginia, including the Bramwell Theater. The Keeslings opened the gardens to the public and they became a mecca for visitors.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Recently separated, it is believed the owners will place the property on the market soon.

Physical Data:

Style: Craftsman Bungalow.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, clipped gable.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed – Average.

Other: Additions made in 1940 added rooms to the play house. An ice house is located on the perimeter of this property (56A). It served the Mann House.

Historic Landscape Condition: Good.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Stone, brick and concrete – Poor to Average.
Walls: Stone – Average to Good.
Other: Pond – Poor. Bridge – Average.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: The most extensive and potentially significant landscape in Bramwell is the Mann Playhouse gardens. Because of the size of the gardens and features such as a large pond, elaborate system of paths, bridge and the extensive pallette of plant materials, it is highly likely this was a professionally designed landscape, although no one in Bramwell had information regarding the designer. At the present, the grounds are poorly cared for and are overgrown. Many species are on the verge of being lost.

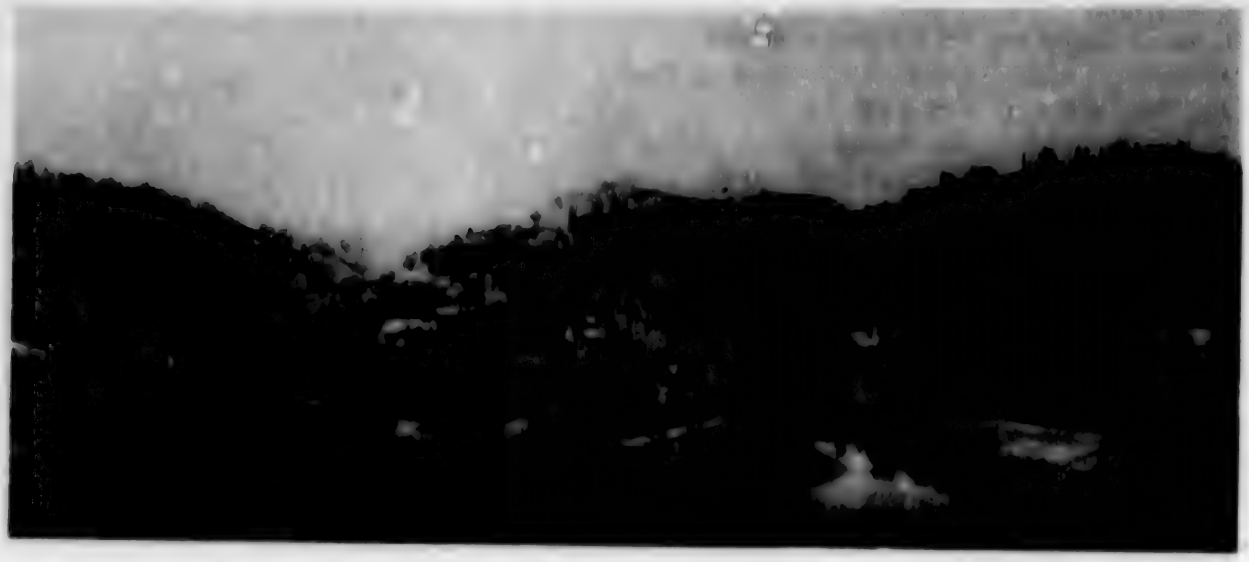
The Playhouse and grounds were purchased by Everett Kiesling in the early 1930s at which time the Playhouse became his residence. He began to augment the existing landscape with extensive plantings of rhododendrons and azaleas from around the world. The garden was opened to the public from the late 50s to early 60s by Kiesling. In the 60s, the garden was closed and many of the rhododendrons and azaleas sold off. Of interest is the "African Lily" which have massed both here and at the Freeman Garage.

This garden should be evaluated to determine if it meets National Register criteria as a historic landscape.

Tree species include (subject to verification):

Abies sps. – White Nikko fir
Acer palmatum – Japanese maple
Albizia julibrissin – Mimosa
Amelanchier canadensis – Service berry
Castanea mollissima – Chinese chestnut
Catalpa sps.
Craetagus sps. – Hawthorne
Fraxinus americana – White ash
Hamamelias virginiana – Witch hazel
Larix decidua – European larch
Liriodendron tulipifera – Tulip poplar
Magnolia sps. – Magnolia
Malus sps. – Crabapple and apple sps
Picea sps. – Engleman, black, red, norway spruce
Pinus strobus – White pine
Pinus resinosa – Red pine
Pinus – Unidentified 5 needled (silver underneath) pine, possibly Swiss stone
Platanus occidentalis – Sycamore
Prunus sps. – Flowering cherry/plum
Prunus serotina – Black cherry
Quercus palustris – Pine oak
Quercus coccinea – Scarlet oak
Salix nigra – Black willow (??)
Salix sps. – Weeping willow

Shrubs:
Cornus sanguinea – Red-twig dogwood
Euonymus alata / taxandra (?)– Burning bush
Hedera helix sps. – English ivy
Kalmia latifolia – Mt. laurel
Pieris japonica – Japanese andromeda
Rhododendron sps.



Site 56: View of Mann Playhouse and Gardens before 1914.
Courtesy of Charles Sacre, Bramwell, West Virginia.

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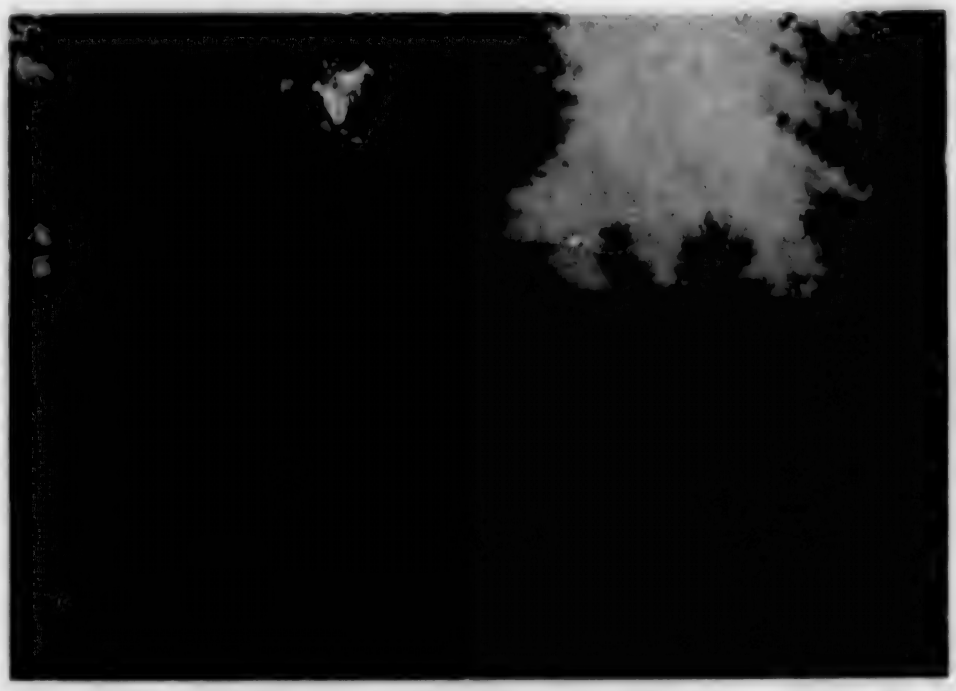
Site 56: Mann Playhouse, front



Site 56: Mann Playhouse, side

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Site 55: Mann Playhouse Garden Meadow

Site 56: Mann Playhouse Garden Pond

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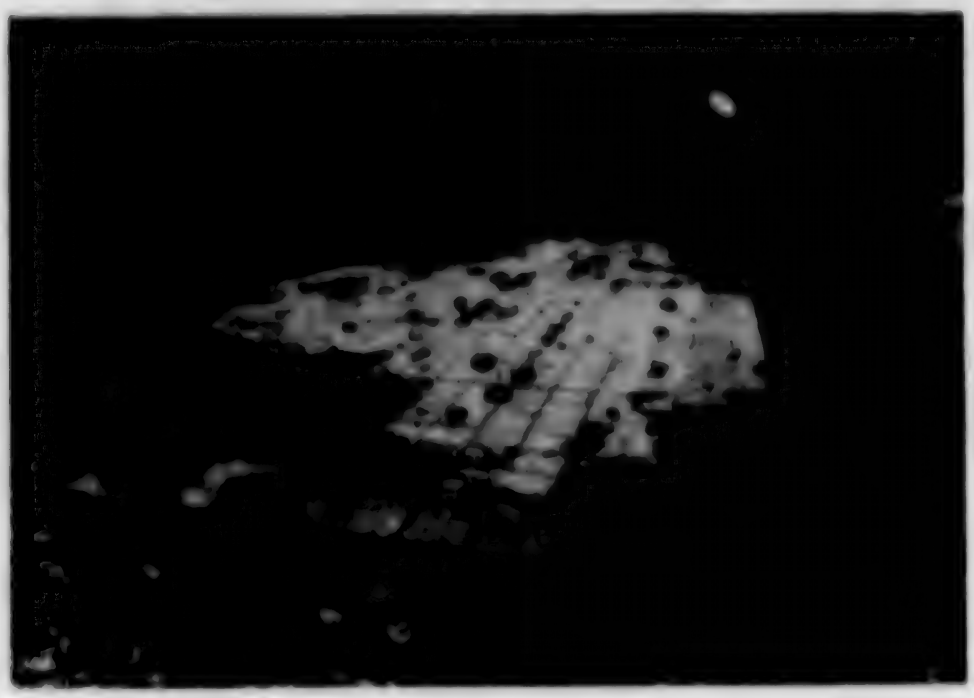

Site 56: Mann Playhouse Garden Terrace

Site 56: Mann Playhouse Garden Gate

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National Register Historic District

Mann Playhouse (NRD #56 & 56A), Garage (NRD #57), & Pedestrian Bridge (NRD #77)

Bramwell, West Virginia

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

DSC · NOV 91 · BRAM · 20,046
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Site Number: 57 – Tax 24 (See also #56 & #77)

Site: Playhouse Garage **Built:** Style Built 1940 (Tax)

Address: Dubring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Barringer, Katherine, Box 38, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Mann Playhouse.

Access: Private

Current Use: Garage

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Poured concrete – Unknown condition.
Roof: Roll roofing – Unknown condition.
Windows: Overhead door – Average.
Other:

Site 57: Mann Playhouse Garage

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0 100' 200'

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Presbyterian Manse (NRD #60)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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216

Site Number: 60 - Tax 26

Site: Presbyterian Manse **Built:** Ca. 1911

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Mann, Isaac T., et. al., Treas., Princeton, W. Va. 24740

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Site 35 for history of church.

Access: Private

Current Use: Dwelling

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Foursquare.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross gabled.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Average/Poor.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed - Average.

Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl. Second story sun room added over original first floor ell. Porch supports and rail of metal.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fence
Street sign
Iron porch supports
Utility lines

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: All trees and shrubs have been cleared from the property with the exception of one red bud on the upper boundary with #59. Evidence of large stumps remain. The structure is surrounded by annuals and perennials.

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Site 60: Presbyterian Manse

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0 50 100'

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #64)
Bramwell, West Virginia

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220

Site Number: 64 - No tax record

Site: House **Built:** Pre 1930

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: No tax records.

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, hipped and clipped-gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average/Poor.
Foundation: Concrete block and brick masonry - Poor.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung, double glazed - Average.
Other: Resided with aluminum-vinyl.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Brick - Poor.
Walls: Stone wall from Mann Playhouse - Average.
Other: Chain link fence - Poor. Miscellaneous debris - Poor.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: All vegetation cleared except for grass. Brick sidewalk is being covered by grass. Possible historic foundation to east covered by miscellaneous debris.

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Site 64: House

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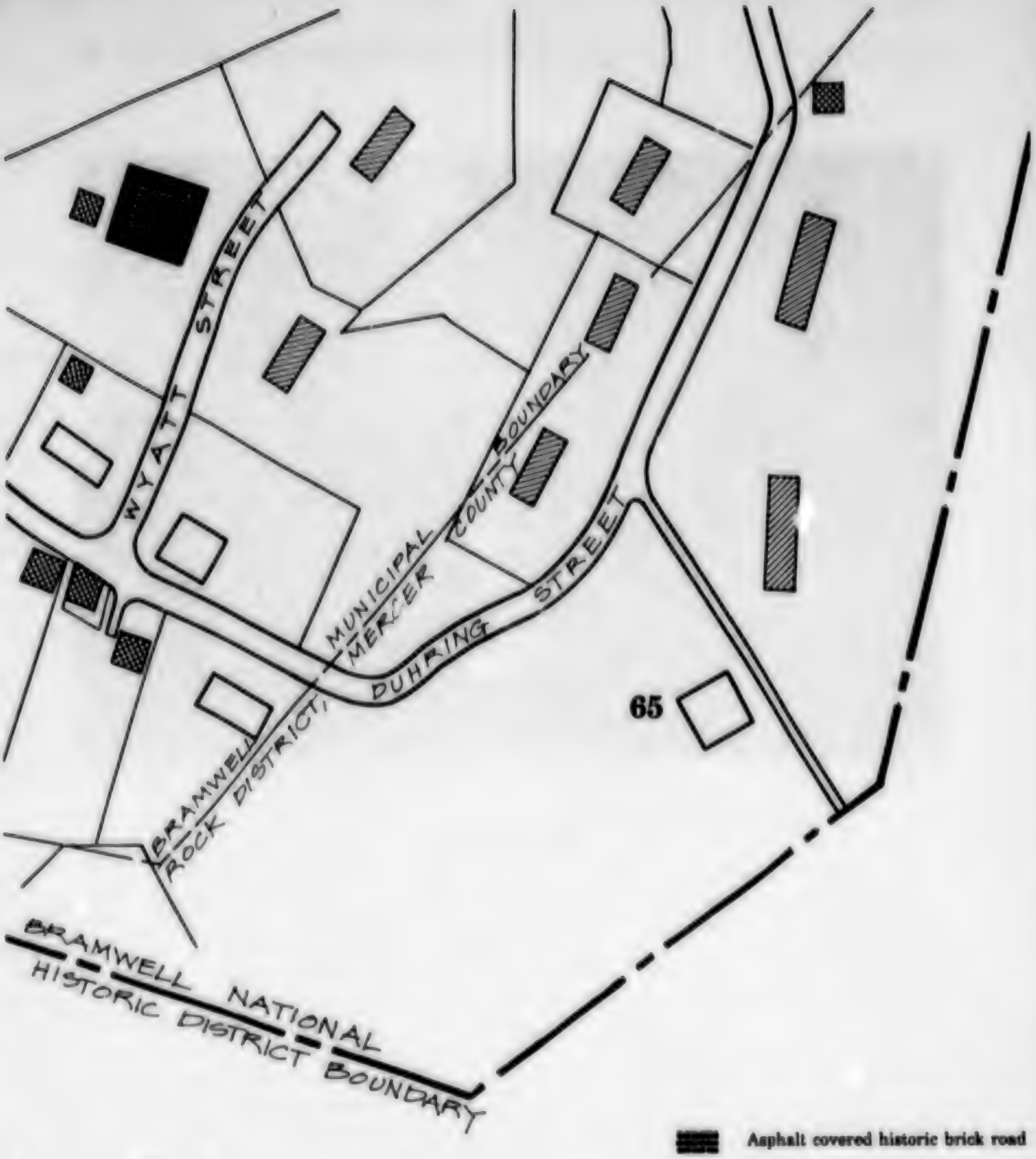

0 100'
50

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Mann Gardener House (NRD #65)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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Site Number: 65 – Tax 225

Site: Mann Gardener House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1915 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hill, Herman W., Box 185, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone with concrete block infill and as new wing foundation – Average/Poor.
Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung, some double glazed – Poor.
Other: Wing added along front. Veranda added in rear.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Gravel – Average. Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Stone walk to house – Poor. Concrete walks – Average.
Walls: Stone – Average.
Trees: Oak – Good.
Other: Stone lined drainage ditch – Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Chain link fence
Utility pole

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Grounds merge with woods. Vegetation includes white pine, oak, rhododendron, yew, forsythia and dog hobble.

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Site 65: Mann Gardener House

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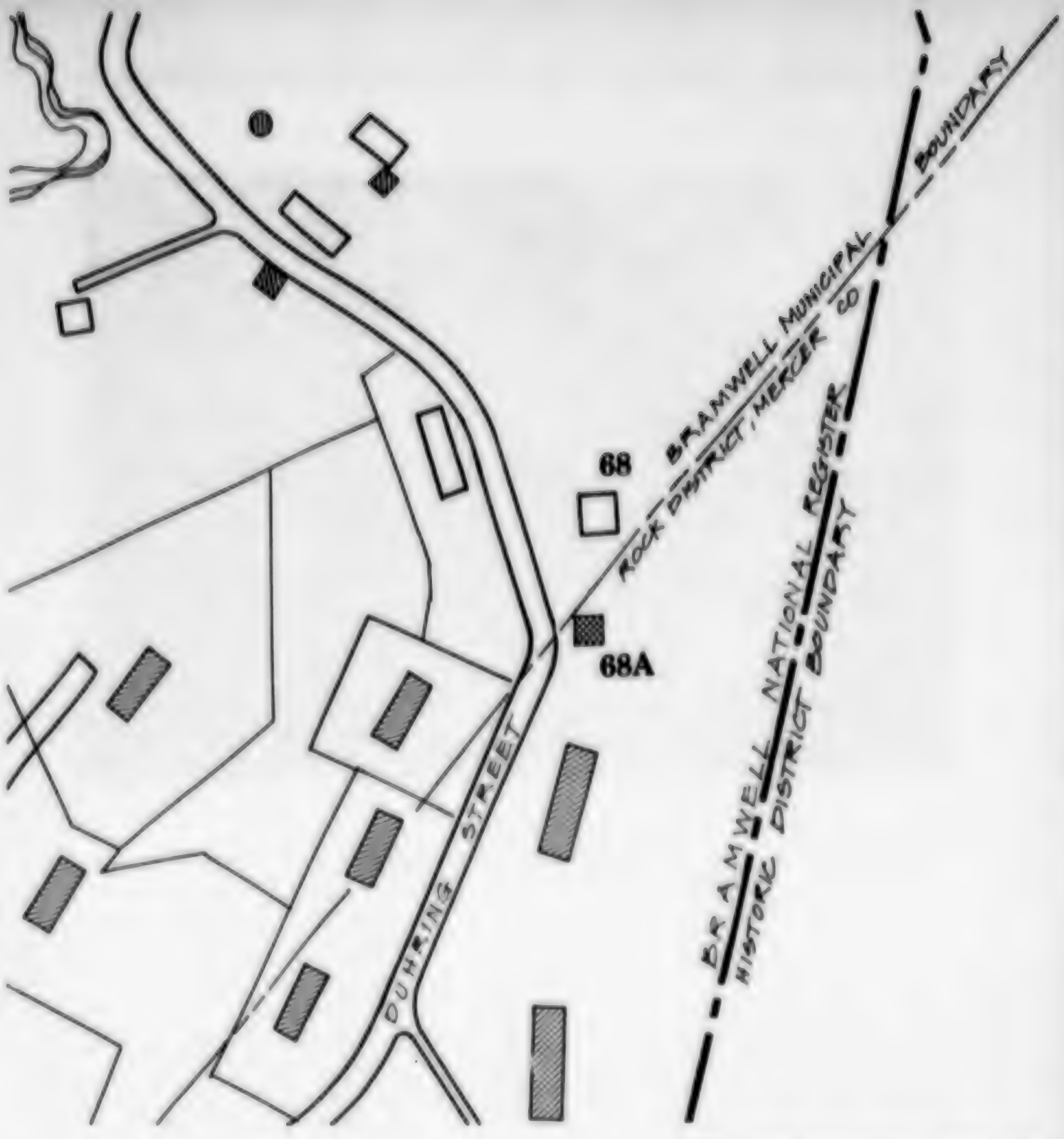

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #68 & 68A)
Bramwell, West Virginia

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NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 68 (Includes #68A) - Tax 236

Site: House **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Pre-1930 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Eller, Robert L. and Jessie, Box 221, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Formerly servants quarters for Freeman House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Average/Poor.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Average.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Poor.
Other: Porch has been partially enclosed. Recent garage at side (68A).

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay - Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Garage - concrete block
Light post
Railing to steps
Garden fence: Average.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Vegetation includes dogwood (possibly historic), viburnum (possibly historic), spruce, hemlock and lilac.

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Site 68: House

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National Register Historic District

Freeman Shed/Garage (NRD #69), Dwelling (NRD #70 & 70A), & House (NRD #71 & 71A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 69 – Tax 236
(See also #70 & #71)

Site: Shed/Garage **Built:** Pre 1930 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Eller, Robert L. and Jessie, Box 221, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Probably a stable associated with Freeman House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor (critical).
Foundation: Unknown.
Roof: Metal standing seam – Poor.
Windows: Boarded over, double hung, broke.

Other: Second floor addition with "dormer over" drive through covered way. There may have been quarters in a shed-like structure at the back.

Site 69:
Shed/Garage

National Register Historic District

Freeman Shed/Garage (NRD #69), Dwelling (NRD #70 & 70A), & House (NRD #71 & 71A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,051
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 70 (Includes #70A) – Tax 145
(See also #69 & #71)

Site: Freeman Quarters **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Pre-1930 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hutchins, Gail M. and Bramwell Reed, Jr., 2802 Colonial Avenue, #10, Roanoke, Va. 24105

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Freeman House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Vacant.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Poor (critical).
Foundation: Brick masonry – Unknown.
Roof: Roll roofing and metal standing seam – Poor.
Windows: Double hung – Poor.
Other: Second story porch collapsing. Small outbuilding (70A).

Site 70: Freeman Quarters

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National Register Historic District

Freeman Shed/Garage (NRD #69), Dwelling (NRD #70 & 70A), & House (NRD #71 & 71A)

Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,051
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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 71 (Includes #71A) - Tax 145
(See also #69 & #70)

Site: Charles W. Freeman House **Built:** Style Built 1920 (Tax) Ca. 1893 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hutchins, Gail M. and Bramwell Reed, Jr., 2802 Colonial Ave., #10, Roanoke, Va. 24105

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Charles W. Freeman (1873-1930) was born in Treverton, Pa., the second son of John Freeman, an English born miner and blacksmith who immigrated to the United States in 1850. John worked in Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia coal mines until about 1883 when he, in partnership with another English miner, Jenkin Jones, formed a company, Freeman & Jones, to lease 1,400 acres of coal land and open mines on Simmons Creek in the Pocahontas-Flat Top Coalfield. Later organized as Caswell Creek Coke and Coal Co., the firm had a mine capacity of 1,250 tons daily, and operated 251 coke ovens by 1896. It employed 350 men. John Freeman died in 1892 and his oldest son, W.G. Freeman, took over his father's role with Caswell Creek. Second son, Charles, was educated at Dunmore College in Stanton, Virginia and Packard's Business School in New York City. On his return he worked in his father's operation, and when Caswell Creek was merged with I.T. Mann's Pocahontas Fuel Co., he became a director of that firm until his death. He was among the early enthusiasts of aviation, and provided substantial financial aid for the development of the Bluefield Airport.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Owners are personally working to provide needed structural support and repairs to house.

Physical Data:

Style: Edwardian Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gabled and hipped roof.
Integrity. Good.
Condition: Poor (critical).
Foundation: Stone masonry - Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Unknown.
Windows: Double hung, some double glazed - Unknown.

Other: Originally a smaller house that was "mansionized" by repeated additions: two on the front plus an octagonal tower over an open porch, a first floor entry, a first floor wing with shed; a rear ell and passage way to rear quarters, which appear to be contemporary with house. A pergola in the side yard is 71A.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (-).

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Flagstone path – Poor.
Walls: Stone – Average.
Other: Pond – Poor.

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: The house was initially landscaped by its occupants but in the late 1920s, Alex B. Mahood was hired to expand the landscaped grounds. Design elements include an impressive flagstone entry walkway, stone driveway, stone walls, a fountain and remnants of the orchard. The woods have encroached upon the ground, surrounding #70. Several trees were recently cleared from the southwest side of the structure.

The following is only a partial list of the numerous trees. Tree species include:

(3+)	*Taxodium distichum* – Bald cypress (possibly historic)
1	*Aesculus glabra* – Buckeye
	Robinia pseudoacacia – Black locust
1	*Acer sacharum* – Sugar maple (possibly historic)
	Picea sps. – Spruce (possibly historic)
(3)	*Malus sps.* – Historic apple orchard

The dwelling and outbuilding have been surrounded by woods. The shed/garage has been surrounded by "African lily" which has emigrated from the Mann Playhouse.

Site 71: Charles W. Freeman House, early 20th century.
Courtesy Louise Stoker, Bramwell, West Virginia

Site 71: Charles W. Freeman House, front

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Site 71: Charles W. Freeman House, side before 1904.
Courtesy Eastern Regional Coal Archives, Bluefield, West Virginia

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Site 71: Charles W. Freeman House, side

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0 100'
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Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road
Pivotal structure
Contributing structure
Intrusive structure
Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District

Keller/Pritchard House (NRD #72)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

242

Site Number: 72 - Tax 146

Site: Keller/Pritchard House **Built:** Style Built 1920 (Tax) Ca. 1893-96 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hollyfield, Sevillah B., Box 26, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: B.P. Keller (1857-?) was born in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania and educated at Pennsylvania State College, from which he graduated in 1876, when he enrolled at the law school of Columbia College in Washington, D.C. From 1891, he was a practicing attorney in Bramwell, and became one of the incorporators and secretary/treasurer of McDowell Coal and Coke Co., with W.H. Thomas and John Cooper, among others. His financial interests expanded rapidly, and he was soon a stockholder in Tidewater Coal and Coke and the Bramwell Water Co., a director of Bluestone Electric Light Co. and the Bank of Bramwell, and a vice president of the Grapevine Coal Co. in Mingo County, West Virginia. His law offices were in the Masonic Hall in Bramwell. Keller was appointed to the Federal Court, Southwest Virginia District, by President William McKinley, and apparently moved to Charleston from Bramwell sometime before 1902, when he issued injunctions against the operators during coal field strikes.

William John Pritchard (1863-1922) was born in South Wales and immigrated to the United States in 1881 with friends. He had been a miner in England and settled in Pennsylvania as a miner. In 1886, he married Ann Thomas, sister of W.H. Thomas and shortly became superintendent of his brother-in-law's Algoma Coal and Coke Company operations. He left Algoma to become general manager of the Thomas Coal Company and, ultimately, for all the Thomas Coal interests; Crystal Coal and Coke, Co., Thomas Coal and Coke Co., Flat-Top Coal and Mining Coal and Coke Co. On his own, he organized and operated the Long Flame Coal Company in Logan County, the Burnwell Coal Company, Algoma Block Coal Company and the Superior Harlan Coal Company in Kentucky. Pritchard was a Mason and a presbyterian. The Pritchards bought the Keller House in the early teens, and both lived there the remainder of their lives.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Poor, shifting.
Roof: Pressed tin (fish scale) - Poor. Porch
Roll Roofing: Average.
Windows: Double hung - Poor.

Other: Resided with aluminum/vinyl. Two story ell in rear has new "clerestory" windows. Needs painting.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: With patching – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Fences: Iron – Poor
Trees: Sugar maple (1) – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Gutter/concrete
Planters/pots

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Sugar maple in state of decline; dead wood throughout. Shrubs include red bud, sumac, hydrangea, quince, honeysuckle. (Plant identification limited by inability to access property.)

Site 72: Keller/Pritchard House

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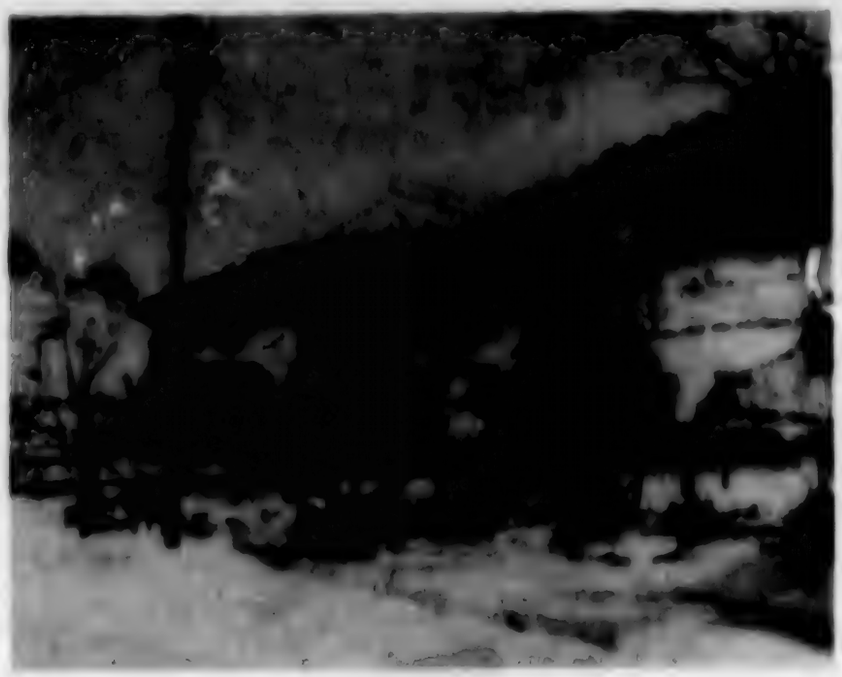

Site 72: Keller/Pritchard House before 1904. View from South River St.
Courtesy of Eastern Regional Coal Archives, Bluefield, West Virginia

Site 72: Keller/Pritchard House before 1904, side front.
Courtesy Eastern Regional Coal Archives, Bluefield, West Virginia

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0 100'
50

National Register Historic District
House (NRD #73, 73A, 73B, & 73C)
Bramwell, West Virginia

DSC • NOV 91 • BRAM • 20,053
United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service

- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 73 (Includes #73A, #73B, & #73C)
Tax 146

Site: Keller/Pritchard Quarters **Built:** Style Built 1920 (Tax) Ca. 1893-96 (NRD)

Address: Church Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Hollyfield, Sevillah S., Box 26, Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: See Keller/Pritchard House.

Access: Private.

Current Use: Dwelling.

Plans and Objectives of Owners: Some repairs are underway.

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, cross-gable roof.
Integrity: Excellent.
Condition: Poor (critical).
Foundation: Stone masonry – Average.
Roof: Pressed tin (fish scale) – Poor, loosing sections on south.
Windows: Double hung – Poor.

Other: Entry stoop added at rear. Front porch propped up with beams. Fascia in poor repair. Needs paint. Two older outbuildings (73A & B) in rear. Garage (73C) across street.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt overlay – Average.
Public Sidewalks: Recent pours – Average.
Private Sidewalks: Poor.
Trees: Spruce (2) – Good.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Recent concrete additions
Reception dish (TV)

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: Original sidewalk and porch encroached upon by recent concrete additions. These additions have cut off water drainage, resulting in water pooling in rainy weather. Kudzu on slope with church. Trees not historic. Structures and grounds poorly maintained. Original iron fence removed.

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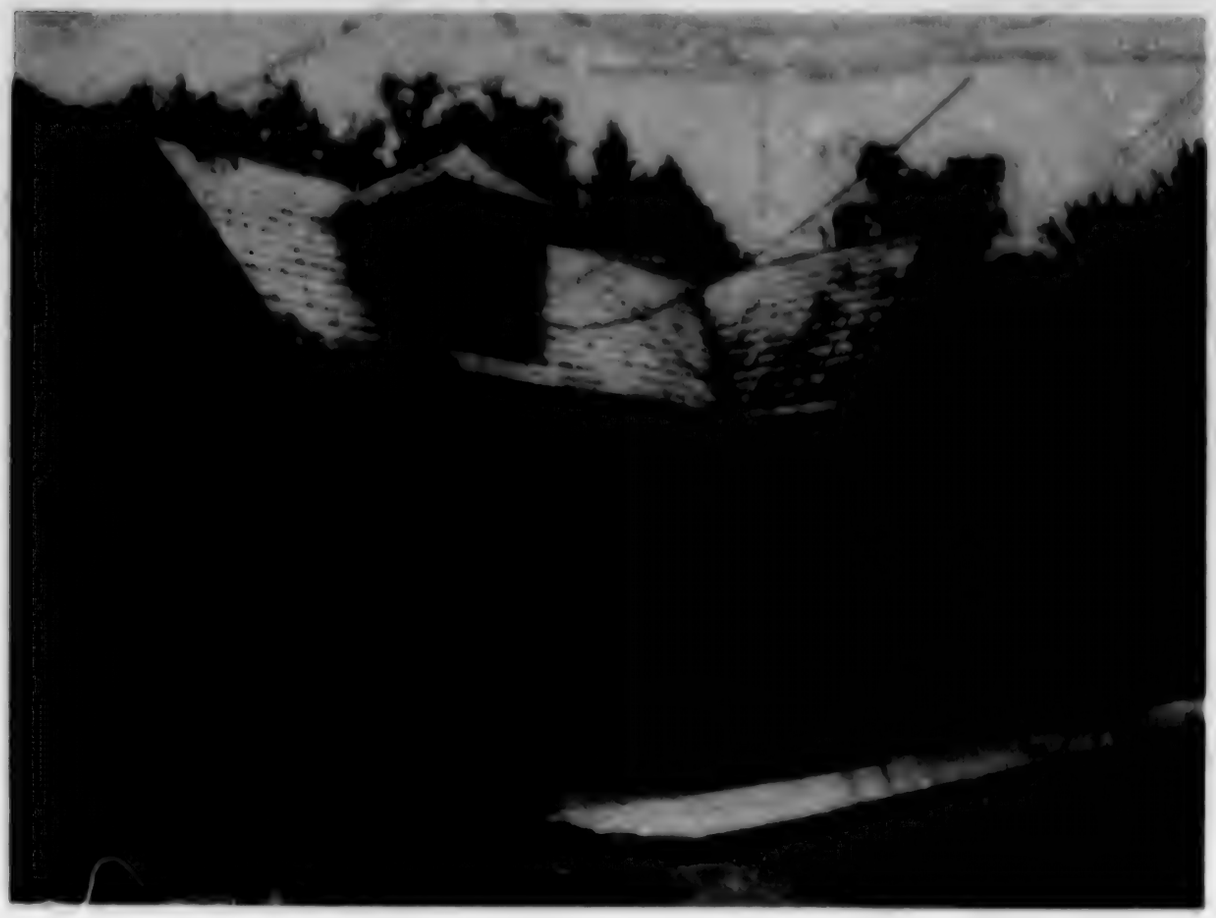

Site 73: Keller/Pritchard Quarters

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National Register Historic District

Former Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (NRD #74)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 74 – Tax 147

Site: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church **Built:** Ca. 1893 (NRD)

Address: Church Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Independent Bible Church of God, Bramwell, W. Va. 14715

National Register District: Pivotal

Significance: Episcopalian ministers traveled from Pocahontas, Virginia to tiny congregations in Bramwell beginning in 1886. In 1891, Rev. William H. Burkhardt of Bluefield began to hold regular services in Bramwell, using the Presbyterian Church as a meeting place. The cornerstone for this church was laid in 1892 and it was opened in October 1893. A long series of ministers served the church, among them the most memorable were the Revs. Norman F. Marshall (1894-1903), John Thomas Crowe (1908-1922), H.B. McJamison (1924-1955/56). The congregation declined, combined with one in Eckman, and the church was sold in 1962. Among the early members of the church were B.F. Keller and John D. Hewitt, Sr.

Access: Quasi-public

Current Use: Church

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Carpenter "Gothic" Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable roof.
Integrity: Average.
Condition: Poor (critical).

Foundation: Brick masonry – Poor, cracks and disintegration of brick, especially around apse.

Roof: Asphalt shingle – Average.
Windows: Double hung – Poor, some panes missing, sills rotting.

Other: Poured concrete front stoop and stairs with pipe railings. Two towers have been either modified or demolished (see historic photograph).

Historic Landscape Condition: Average (+).

Streets: Asphalt overlay ends – Poor
Public Sidewalks: Average.
Private Sidewalks: Average.
Other: Power lines – Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions: Utility lines

General Landscape Maintenance: Poor

Comments: The grounds are not well cared for but enough (probable) original vegetation exists to make the grounds above average. Vegetation includes 2 hemlock (1 probably historic), and 6 oaks along the river. Shrubs include privet, hydrangea and rhododendron, all in declining condition. Sidewalks vary in age – stairs appear historic.

Site 74: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, early 20th century.
Courtesy Louise Stoker, Bramwell, W. Va.

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Site 74: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, front

Site 74: Holy Trinity Episcopal church, side

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National Register Historic District

Former Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Parsonage (NRD #75)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

Site Number: 75 - Tax 148

Site: Holy Trinity Church Parsonage **Built:** Style Built 1900 (Tax) Ca. 1897 (NRD)

Address: Church Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner: Lance, Vaugie M., Bramwell, W. Va. 24715

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Built on land contributed to the church by B.F. Keller and John D. Hewitt, Sr., among others. The parsonage was first occupied in March 1898 by the Rev. Norman F. Marshall. It was sold to its present owner in 1957, when the church congregation merged with another in Eckman.

Access: Private

Current Use: Dwelling

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Wood frame, gable and gambrel roofs.
Integrity: Poor.
Condition: Average.
Foundation: Stone masonry - Unknown.
Roof: Asphalt shingle - Average.
Windows: Double hung - Unknown.
Other: Resided with aluminum/vinyl. Recent open shed/garage added at side.

Historic Landscape Condition: Average.

Private Sidewalks: Unknown
Trees: Oak - Good. Maple and hemlock - Average.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Parking shed
TV reception dish
Utility pole
Trailer and other equipment

Current Landscape Maintenance: Average.

Comments: Woods surround property. Large oak on border of grounds to north. Probable identification on maple and hemlock; was not able to access grounds. Other vegetation includes red bud, spruce, rose of sharon, quince, lilac and honeysuckle.

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Site 75: Holy Trinity Church Parsonage

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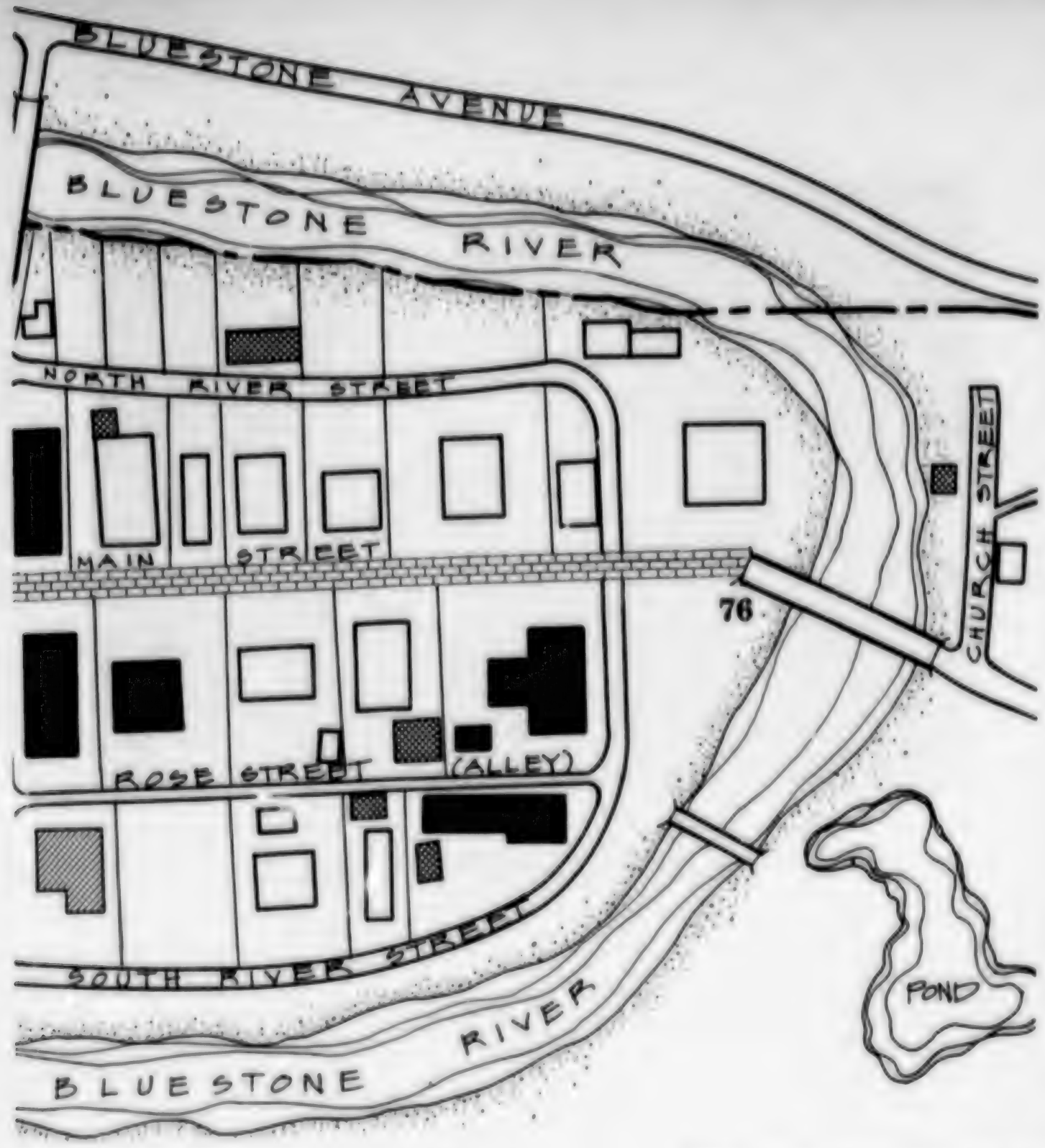

Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Main Street Bridge (NRD #76)
Bramwell, West Virginia

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158

Site: Main Street Bridge **Built:** 1915 (NRD)

Address: Main Street to Duhring Street, across Bluestone River.

Owner:

National Register District: Contributing

Significance:

Access: Public

Current Use: Bridge

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Pratt Pony Truss.
Material/Construction Type: Steel.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Average/Poor.
Foundation: Stone masonry abutments, wood deck.
Roof:
Windows:
Other: Needs scraping and painting.

Site 76: Main Street Bridge

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National Register Historic District

Mann Playhouse (NRD #56 & 56A), Garage (NRD #57), & Pedestrian Bridge (NRD #77)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

160

Site Number: 77 (See also #56 & #57)

Site: Mann Pedestrian Bridge **Built:** Ca. 1910 (NRD)

Address: Duhring Street to Mann Playhouse, across Bluestone River.

Owner:

National Register District: Contributing

Significance: Built to connect I. T. Mann house with children's playhouse across the Bluestone River.

Access: Public

Current Use: Pedestrian Bridge

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Warren Truss.
Material/Construction Type: Steel.
Integrity: Good.
Condition: Fair/Poor.
Foundation: Wood post and beam, wood deck.
Roof:
Windows:
Other: Needs scraping and painting.

Site 77: Mann Pedestrian Bridge

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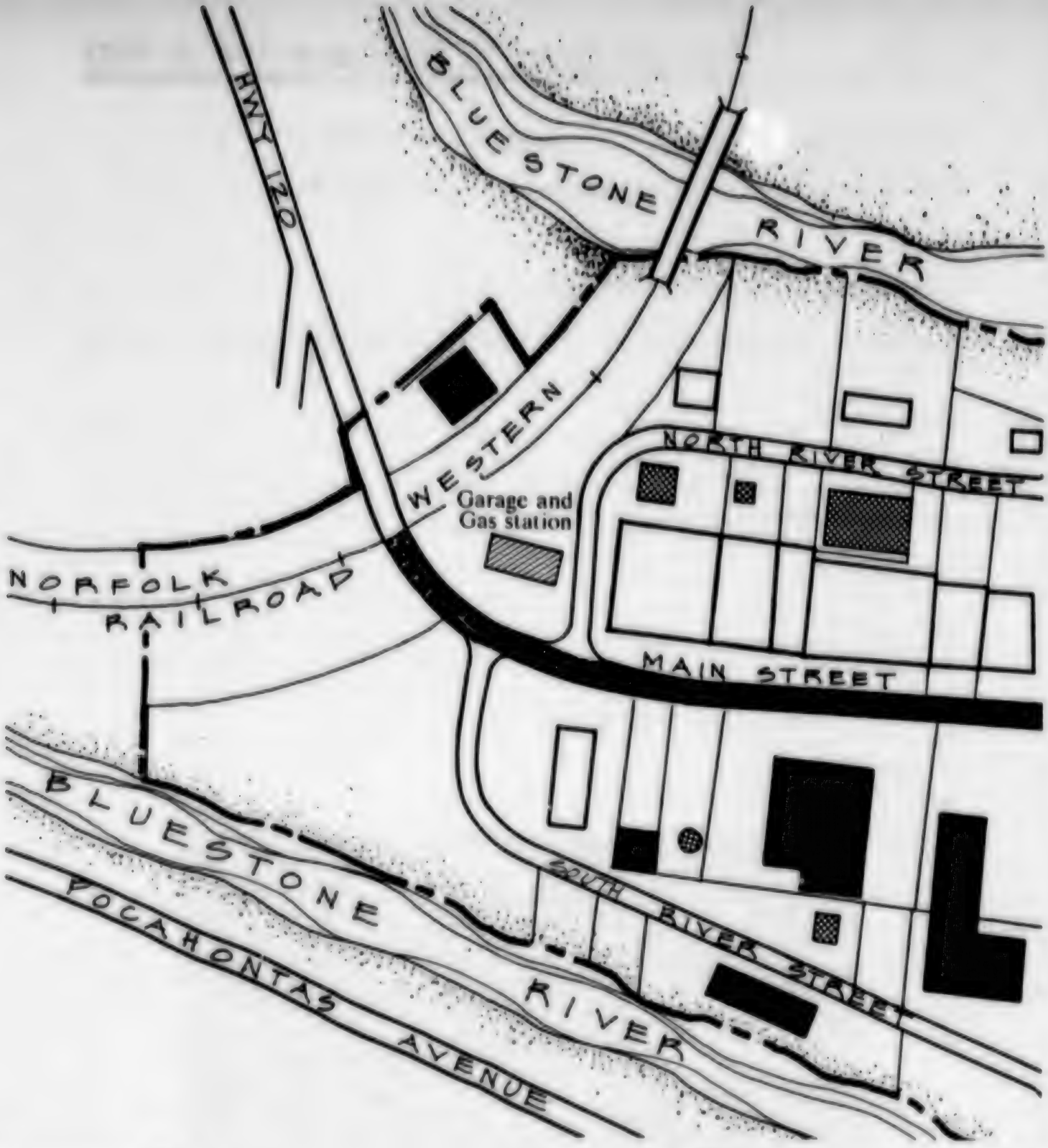
R61



National Register Historic District

Main Street Garage & Gas Station (Intrusion)

Bramwell, West Virginia

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- Asphalt covered historic brick road
- Historic brick road
- Pivotal structure
- Contributing structure
- Intrusive structure
- Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

368

Site Number: Not listed - Tax 477

Site: Main Street Garage and Gas Station **Built:** 1910-20

Address: Main Street, Bramwell, W. Va.

Owner:

National Register District: Intrusion: Subsequent to this inventory, it has been determined that the structure is over 50 years old and therefore has been included in the analysis.

Significance:

Access: Private

Current Use: Commercial storage.

Plans and Objectives of Owners:

Physical Data:

Style: Vernacular.
Material/Construction Type: Rustic formed concrete block, brick masonry, gable and shed roofs.

Integrity: Good.
Condition: Poor.
Foundation: Concrete block – Poor.
Roof: Roll roofing – Poor.
Windows: Double hung, boarded over.

Other: Recent concrete block additions on either end. Two center sections are historic. No pumps.

Historic Landscape Condition: Poor.

Streets: Asphalt covering historical brick – Poor.
Public Sidewalks: Poor.

Modern Landscape Intrusions:

Paved areas around structure
Trailer behind structure
Sheds
Wood refuse pile

Current Landscape Maintenance: Poor.

Comments: The landscape has been abandoned except as a storage area for amusement ride equipment and other materials.

Not Listed: Main Street Garage and Gas Station

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural and cultural resources. This includes fostering wise use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The department also promotes the goals of the Take Pride in America campaign by encouraging stewardship and citizen responsibility for the public lands and promoting citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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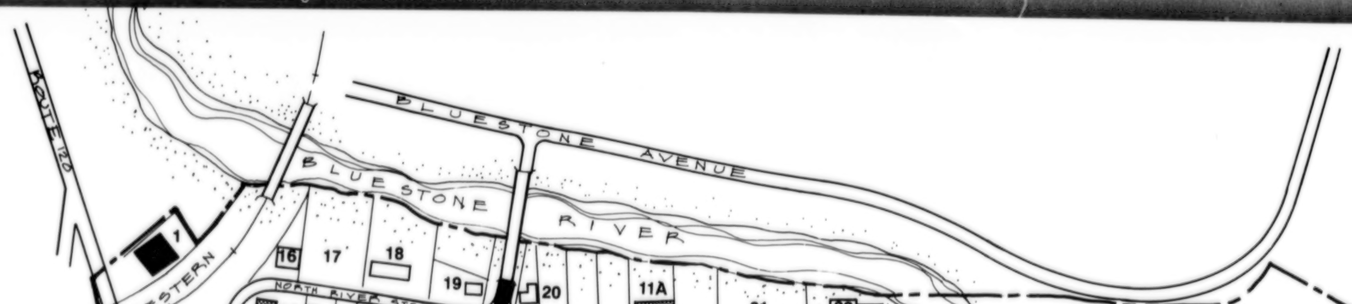
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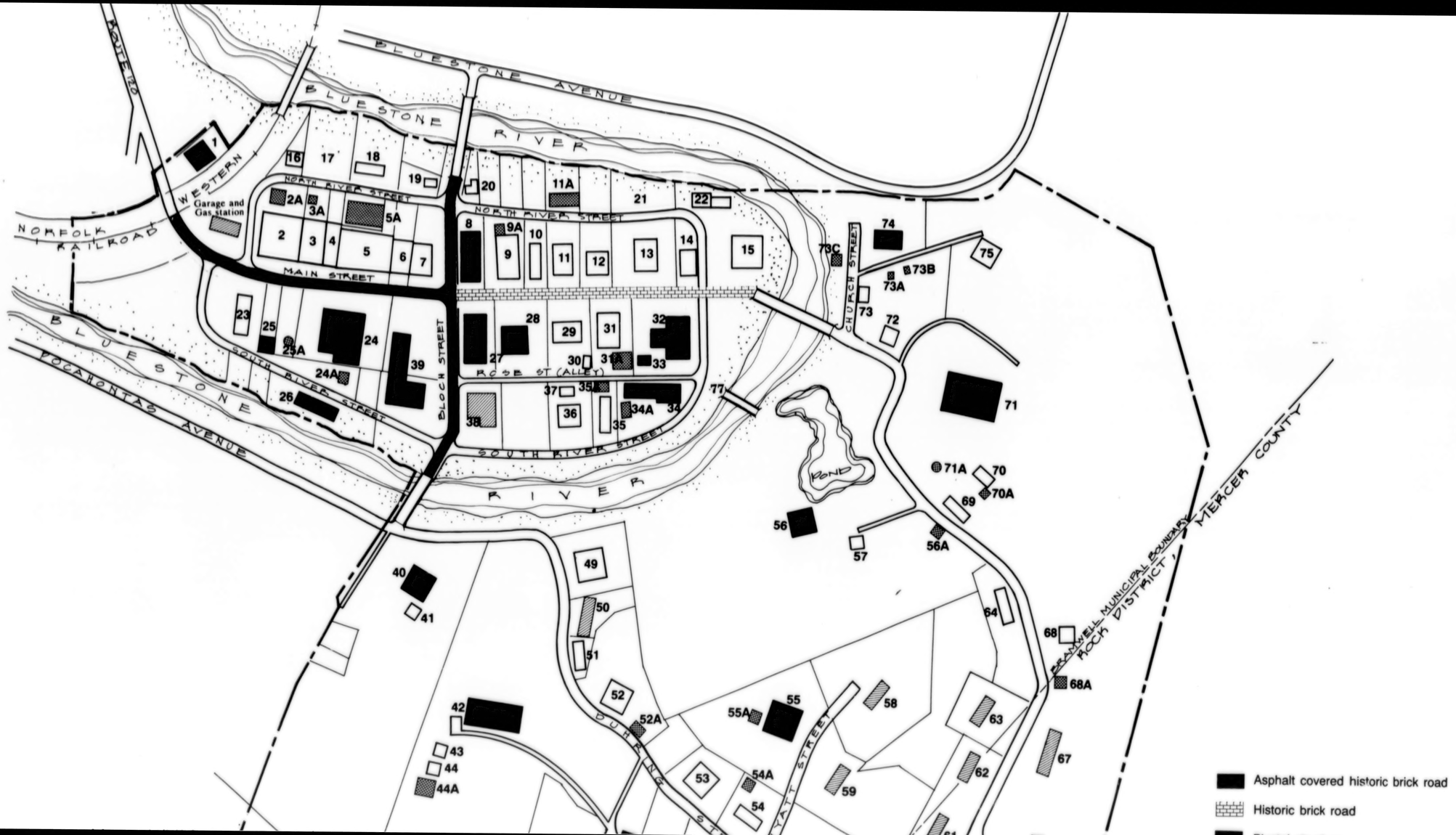
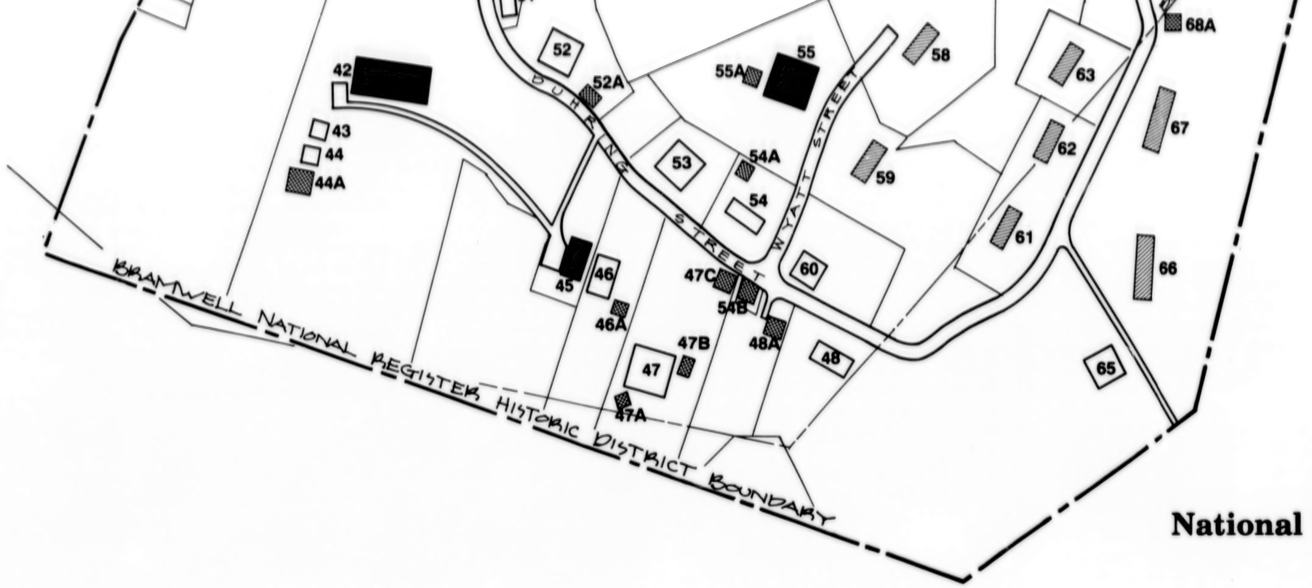

BLUESTONE AVENUE
BLUESTONE RIVER
ROUTE 120
WESTERN
NORFOLK RAILROAD
Garage and Gas station
NORTH RIVER STREET
MAIN STREET
SOUTH RIVER STREET
BLOCH STREET
ROSE ST (ALLEY)
CHURCH STREET
POCAHONTAS AVENUE
POND
DUHRING ST
YATT STREET
BRAMWELL MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
ROCK DISTRICT, MERCER COUNTY
Asphalt covered historic brick road
Historic brick road



Asphalt covered historic brick road

Historic brick road

Pivotal structure

Contributing structure

Intrusive structure

Non-register structure (A, B, C)

NOTE: Numbers correspond to national register nomination descriptions

National Register Historic District
Bramwell, West Virginia

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